FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

12 MAY 1983

Lebanese Position, Contacts — The Lebanese Cabinet will hold an extraordinary session 12 May to discuss the draft agreement because "it has reached the final stage," Beirut radio reported. The Lebanese-Israeli-U.S. negotiations will resume at Netanya on 13 May to put the "final touches" on the agreement, the radio added. Noting that the texts of the pact will be exchanged at Netanya before a date is set for signing it, the radio said the clarifications demanded by Israel will not impede the signing. Meanwhile, following a telephone conversation between President Amin al-Jumayyil and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, Foreign Minister Elie Salim will visit Damascus 12 May to discuss the tripartite negotiations with the Syrian leader, according to Beirut and Damascus radios.

Saudi View of Syria — Asserting that Saudi Arabia does not believe President al-Asad needs persuasion over Lebanon as "he always tries to preserve the interests of Lebanon and Syria," Defense and Aviation Minister Prince Sultan dismissed speculation that the Kingdom is pressuring Syria in this regard, according to remarks in an interview on French television as quoted by SPA. The prince said Syria's withdrawal from Lebanon must be at the Lebanese Government's request, adding that Syria will "not be disturbed" by such a request and will discuss the matter with Lebanon. Asked about reports that the United States will request Saudi Arabia to persuade Syria to accept the Lebanese-Israeli draft, Prince Sultan said "the subject of pressure on the Kingdom from any side is out of the question." Meanwhile, the Mecca paper AN-NADWAH criticized the agreement as "another attempt to neutralize an Arab state" in the Arab-Israeli conflict, SPA reported.

Syria 'Not Alone' — Syria is "not alone" against the draft agreement as has been depicted by the "misled," the Syrian daily AL-BA'TH affirmed in a 12 May editorial reported by SANA. The Arab stands against the agreement are "unequivocal evidence" that the U.S. attempt to isolate Syria is doomed to fail, AL-BA'TH added.

Libyan Warning — Describing the draft agreement as "more serious than the stable David accords," Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi told a press conference that if the agreement is implemented Libya will have no relations with the Lebanese authorities and will no longer regard Lebanon as an independent state, JANA reported. According to Radio Monte Carlo, Al-Qadhdhafi also informed the journalists that President al-Asad was scheduled to arrive in Tripoli "at any moment."

Knesset Plenum on Lebanon — If Syria and the PLO do not withdraw from Lebanon and fail to return Israeli POW's and the bodies of dead soldiers, the Israeli-Lebanese agreement will be considered suspended and Israel will be at liberty to act "according to its considerations and interests," Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir told the Knesset in a speech broadcast by Jerusalem radio. Nevertheless, he expressed hope that Lebanese, Israeli, and U.S. determination to sustain the agreement will convince Syria to remove its Army from Lebanon. Commending the agreement and outlining its provisions, Shamir said the same logic that made the "Peace for Galilee Operation" necessary now requires that the Israeli-Lebanese agreement be signed in the next few days.

Replying on behalf of the opposition Alignment, Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres proposed that Israel set a timetable for Syria's withdrawal and withdraw unilaterally to the security zone in southern Lebanon if the Syrians fail to comply. Stressing that the IDF deployment in southern Lebanon must be temporary and that security there must eventually be maintained by Major Sa'd Haddad's forces and a multinational force, Peres said the Alignment will not support any agreement that leaves the IDF without a departure date from Lebanon. He sharply criticized the government's conduct of the war and the resulting peace negotiations, asserting that its claim to have liberated Lebanon from the pressure of Syria and the PLO has proved to be "a total illusion."

Jerusalem radio subsequently reported that the Knesset is likely to support the agreement in the vote on 16 May.

Lebanese Military, Security Situation — The Al-Biqa' situation is tense but there is no deterioration overall, IDF Brigadier General Amnon Lipkin declared at a news conference reported by Jerusalem radio. AFP said uniformed Soviet troops have been seen in Lebanon and Voice of Lebanon radio noted that Syrian gunners again fired at an Israeli reconnaissance plane. In a statement reported by Damascus radio, the Lebanese Nationalist Resistance claimed to have killed or wounded 13 IDF soldiers in recent attacks near An-Nabatiyah and in Ash-Shuf.

In a separate development a special Soviet plane transported another 24 Soviet nationals from Beirut, according to Beirut Radio. In contrast to recent statements by the Soviet ambassador to Lebanon, a Soviet source in Moscow cited by KUNA disclosed that the departure of Soviet nationals is a "precautionary measure" in view of an expected outbreak of hostilities between the IDF and Syrian forces in Lebanon.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Some 40 houses were destroyed and a "great number" of civilians were killed or wounded as a result of an Iraqi missile attack on the city of Andimeshk near Dezful on 12 May, according to IRNA. Earlier, Iraqi Air Force and naval units attacked an Iranian "naval target" south of the Iranian Nowruz oil field, scoring a direct hit and setting it ablaze, a military communique broadcast by Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio announced. An Iranian communique carried by Tehran Radio claimed that one of the four attacking aircraft was shot down and accused Iraq of "inhuman actions" aimed at further polluting the Persian Gulf. An Iraqi military spokesman in a statement to INA denied the loss of any of the attacking aircraft. Another Iraqi spokesman,

commenting on the Tokyo visit by an Iranian delegation seeking Japanese assistance to repair the petrochemical complex at Bandar-e Khomeyni, warned Japan not to get involved and threatened to strike again at the complex in southern Iran, INA said.

In another development, during his meeting with Secretary of State Shultz in Paris, Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz emphasized Iraq's call for a "peaceful and just" solution of the conflict according to Security Council resolutions and urged the permanent members of the Council to work for an end to the war, INA reported.

Iran

In a speech broadcast by Tehran radio Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni called on religious and secular leaders to maintain unity in order to safeguard Islam and the Republic against the dangers of dissension,"which will benefit only the superpowers." The clandestine Radio Iran interpreted Khomeyni's remarks as a call for leftist and rightist religious factions to end their power struggle.

PLO-Libya

A "responsible source" of the Fatah movement denounced as "ridiculous and fabricated" Libya's accusing the movement of a plot to assassinate Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, Baghdad Voice of PLO Radio reported. The source said that since the Israeli invasion of Lebanon Al-Qadhdhafi has been "waging war" against the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples through a systematic propaganda campaign against the PLO. Earlier, JANA reported the arrest and confession of a Palestinian belonging to Fatah allegedly recruited by the CIA to assassinate the Libyan leader, the "only voice of opposition" to U.S. plans for the Middle East.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

CONTENTS

Middle East & Africa

Vol V No 093 *12 May 1983*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

Fatah Split; Al-Wazir Reportedly Detained ..... A 1
Fatah, Others Refute Liyba's Claim of Plot ..... A 1
MAP: Fatah Denial ..... A 1
Fatah Assails Al-Qadhdhafi ..... A 1
Al-Qadhdhafi Described as 'Agent' ..... A 1
PLO Radio Commentary ..... A 2
'Arafat Stops in Saudi Arabia, Cables Mugabe *[Radio Monte Carlo]* ..... A 2
PLO Radio: 'Arafat Sends Messages to UN Leader ..... A 3
'Arafat: U.S. Aid to Israel 'Hinders' Peace ..... A 3
Aden VOP on of U.S. Arms Shipment to Sidon ..... A 3
PLO's Al-Wazir on Palestinian Issues, Shultz *[Jidda 'UKAZ 1 May]* ..... A 3
PLO's Abu Mayzar on Reagan Plan, Arab Summit ..... A 5
APS: Arab Cultural Ministers Adopt Documents ..... A 5

OPEC AFFAIRS

OAPEC To Hold Meeting in Damascus 25 May *[WAM]* ..... B 1
OAPEC Officials Sign Agreement With OLADE *[cross-reference]* ..... B 1

ARABIAN PENINSULA

GULF AFFAIRS

UAE Foreign Minister on GCC Move To End War *[AL-KHALIJ 11 May]* ..... C 1
Gulf Technicians Begin Work on Oil Slick ..... C 1
GCC Finance Ministers Meet in Riyadh 11 May ..... C 1
Finance Ministers Conclude Meeting ..... C 1

SAUDI ARABIA

Prince Sultan Interviewed on Syria, Gulf War ..... C 1
French TV Interview Reported ..... C 1
Monte Carlo Interview ..... C 3
Papers Comment on Israeli Troop Buildup ..... C 3

UAE

Abu Dhabi Heir Apparent on French Weapons ..... C 3
KHALEEJ TIMES: 1982 Oil Exports Decrease *[10 May]* ..... C 5

EGYPT

Cabinet Reviews Lebanon Agreement, 5-Year Plan ..... D 1
MENA Reports Veliotes Arrival in Cairo 11 May ..... D 1
Scientific Cooperation Discussed with FRG ..... D 1
Meeting Held With Romanian Cooperation Committee ..... D 1
Prime Minister Sees Romanian, FRG Delegations ..... D 1
Integration Official Makes Statement ..... D 2
U.S. Aided Scientific Research Plan Approved ..... D 2
AL-AHRAM Says Israel Behind Hitler Diaries ..... D 2

Opposition Paper Disputes Mubarak Speech *[AL-AHALI 4 May]* ..... D 3
Briefs: French Naval Visit ..... D 3

IRAQ

Communique: 'Naval Target' Destroyed 11 May ..... E 1
'Naval Target' Destroyed 10 May ..... E 1
Spokesman Denies Downing of Iraqi Planes ..... E 1
Iraq To Strike at Petrochemical Complex in Iran ..... E 1
Tariq 'Aziz Confers With France's Mauroy ..... E 1

JORDAN

AD-DUSTUR Condemns 9 May Amman Explosions *[11 May]* ..... F 1
Radio Reports Shultz' Statement to PETRA ..... F 1
Daily on Lebanese-Syrian Conflicting Interests *[SAWT ASH-SHA'B]* ..... F 1
Hasan Leaves; 'Abdallah Appointed Regent ..... F 2

LEBANON

Reportage on Draft Agreement With Israel ..... G 1
Texts To Be Exchanged ..... G 1
Habib, Draper, Dillon Talks ..... G 1
Al-Jumayyil, Al-Wazzan Meet Cabinet ..... G 1
Habib Talks End 11 May ..... G 1
Netanya Negotiations To Be Held 13 May ..... G 1
13 May Session Planned ..... G 1
Ministry Receives Report on Al-Asad-Fahd Talks ..... G 2
RFL on Evacuation of Soviet Nationals ..... G 2
Beirut Radio on Departures ..... G 2
RFL on Salim's Possible Arab, European Tour ..... G 2
Salim to Damascus 12 May ..... G 2
Tunisian Envoy Briefed on Lebanese Stance ..... G 2
Shaykhani Says No Religious Problems in Country ..... G 2
Jabal Lubnan Mufti Meets Al-Wazzan 11 May ..... G 3
Arab League Envoy Briefed on Developments ..... G 3
Apostolic Nuncio Meets Al-Jumayyil, Comments ..... G 3
AFP Reportage on Security Situation 11-12 May ..... G 3
'Uniformed Soviet Troops' Seen ..... G 3
Unidentified Overflights ..... G 3
Israeli Al-Biqa' Reinforcements ..... G 4
Al-Qir'awn Calm 12 May ..... G 4
Iddih Denies Report on Support for Al-Asad ..... G 4
Beirut Papers Comment on U.S. Role, Draft Accord ..... G 4

SYRIA

ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT Interviews Minister Khaddam *[10 May]* ..... H 1
'UKAZ Interview *[10 May]* ..... H 4
Envoy Vows To 'Abort' Lebanon Agreement ..... H 4
ATH-THAWRAH on Anticipated Offensive on Syria ..... H 5
AL-BA'TH: Syria To Resist Draft Agreement ..... H 5
Damascus Contrasts U.S., Syrian Peace Concepts ..... H 6
Palestine Broadcast Cites APN on Lebanon Accord ..... H 7
Al-Asad Receives GDR Defense Minister 11 May ..... H 7
GDR Military Delegation Departs ..... H 7
Raymond Iddih Hails Al-Asad's Stand on Lebanon ..... H 7

ISRAEL

More on Official Reaction to Agreement Proposal ..... I 1

Signing Expected Soon ..... I 1
Knesset Majority Favors Accord ..... I 1
Knesset Debate Begins ..... I 1
Shamir on Lebanon Situation *[Bonn DIE WELT 11-12 May]* ..... I 1
Peres Details Opposition ..... I 2
IDF Reported on 'Moderate' Alert in Lebanon *[MA'ARIV 12 May]* ..... I 6
Al-Biqa' Called 'Tense' ..... I 6
POST Analyzes Growing Tension With Syria *[11 May]* ..... I 6
New Policy Adopted Toward Factions in Lebanon ..... I 7
PLO Ash-Shuf Involvement Doubted ..... I 7
Arens on Future of West Bank Settlements ..... I 7
WHO Finds No Evidence of West Bank Poisonings ..... I 7
Soviet Delegation Coming for 7-Day Visit ..... I 8
Cuban Delegation On Restoring Diplomatic Ties *['AL HAMISHMAR 10 May]* ..... I 8
Foreign Debt Now Up to $20.9 Billion *[JERUSALEM POST 9 May]* ..... I 8

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

Spanish Cooperation Agreement Signed 11 May ..... Q 1
Joint Communique Issued After PCF Visit *[EL MOUDJAHID 29-30 Apr]* ..... Q 1
France's Marchais Comments *[EL MOUDJAHID 29-30 Apr]* ..... Q 3
Polish Deputy Premier Meets With Ministers ..... Q 3
Bendjedid Meets Polish Minister ..... Q 4

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Press Conference 11 May ..... Q 4
PLO Envoy on Assassin Recruit's Affiliation ..... Q 5

MAURITANIA

Foreign Minister Visits Oman on Gulf Tour ..... Q 6

SUDAN

SUNA on Arrest of Fatah Member in Libya ..... Q 6
Security Forces Apprehend Libyan Agent ..... Q 6

TUNISIA

Prime Minister Receives PLO Envoy 9 May ..... Q 6

EAST AFRICA

ETHIOPIA

Military Commissariat Organizes Regional Militia ..... R 1
Demonstration Supports Conscription ..... R 1
Mengistu Comments on Need for Militia, Army ..... R 2
Text of Proclamation on Regional Militia ..... R 3

WEST AFRICA

GHANA

TIMES Calls U.S. Embassy Statement 'Unfair' ..... T 1
TIMES Reports Clash in Lake Volta Region ..... T 1
Accra: Students Seeking Ties With RSA ..... T 1

GUINEA

CSSR Trade Union Delegation Arrives in Conakry ..... T 1

GUINEA-BISSAU

Talks Planned With France To Start in June ..... T 1

NIGER

Kountche Receives Chadian Foreign Minister ..... T 2
Students Extend Boycott Until 16 May ..... T 2

NIGERIA

Radio Praises Peaceful Settlement with Chad ..... T 2

SENEGAL

Ka Comments on OAU Summit, Ties With Israel ..... T 3

SIERRA LEONE

Foreign Minister To Run for OAU Post ..... T 3

TOGO

France's Penne Leaves Lome for Accra ..... T 3
Foreign Minister Leaves for New York ..... T 3

SOUTHERN AFRICA

ANGOLA

Minister Notes Likelihood of New Talks With RSA ..... U 1
Dos Santos Receives Messages From USSR, Cuba ..... U 1
'Personal Message' From Andropov ..... U 1
Ambassador Delivers Castro Note ..... U 1
Reportage on Visit of PRC Vice Foreign Minister ..... U 1
Addresses Newsmen on Arrival ..... U 1
Talks Begin 10 May ..... U 1
'Eventual' Industrial Cooperation Discussed ..... U 2

LESOTHO

Priest, Two Others Convicted Under Security Act *[SAPA]* ..... U 2
Sentences Announced at Trial ..... U 2

MOZAMBIQUE

Machel Visits to UK, Belgium, SFRY Postponed ..... U 2
More on Tour Postponement ..... U 2

SOUTH AFRICA

Government Denies Zimbabwean Charges of Spying ..... U 3
R.F. Botha Addresses Assembly During Debate ..... U 3
Zimbabwe Talks Still Possible ..... U 3
Warns Neighbors on Guerrillas *[RAND DAILY MAIL 11 May]* ..... U 3
Reportage on Outcome of Transvaal By-elections ..... U 4

Record Postal, Special Votes ..... U 4
Three Constituencies Report Results ..... U 4
Manpower Minister Botha Reelected ..... U 5
Voting Compared With Last Election ..... U 5
Government 'More Determined' After Elections ..... U 6

ZIMBABWE

Arrest of 'South African Spies' Announced ..... U 6
Government Seeks Cooperation of Private Sector ..... U 6

Fatah Split; Al-Wazir Reportedly Detained

NC111846 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon has learned that last night a split, led by pro-Syrian Colonel Abu Musa, occurred in the Fatah organization and that a state of total alert is prevailing in all Palestinian positions in the Al-Biqa' particularly in Ta'lbaya and Jdita. There have been armed manifestations and Palestinian barricades were erected in some areas.

It has also been learned that Abu Musa is coordinating with pro-Syrian Abu Salih [Nimr Salih], whose followers are surrounding the position of Khalil al-Wazir — Abu Jihad. It is believed that the latter has been detained.

The Voice of Lebanon correspondent reports that clashes took place at 1530 [1330 GMT] today inside a Fatah camp in Mahallat an-Nabi Sbat in Ba'labakk.

Fatah, Others Refute Liyba's Claim of Plot

MAP: Fatah Denial

LD111341 Rabat MAP in English 1243 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Tunis, May 11 (MAP) — The Palestinian movement Fatah rejected on Tuesday allegations by Libya that this organization had engineered an assassination attempt against Libya's Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. A Palestinian source quoted by the Palestinian news agency "WAFA" said that the Fatah movement "condemns and expresses astonishment" over such allegations "formulated" by Libyan officials and terms them "ridiculous".

After having denounced "the Libyan stand during the Israeli-American invasion of Lebanon, a stand that it described as accessory and impotent", the same source which was not identified by "WAFA" charged Al-Qadhdhafi with having murdered, by his secret service in the people's committees, five Palestinian detainees charged with belonging to the Islamic liberation party even if he had promised to free them in 1981". [quotation mark as received] The same source disclosed that these five Palestinians "were hanged according to primitive proceedings".

"Colonel al-Qadhdhafi", added the same source, has launched "since the beginning of the war in Lebanon daily compaigns of mobilization against the Palestine Liberation Organization, following the same line (of Israel) which seeks to politically liquidate the PLO".

Fatah Assails Al-Qadhdhafi

JN111701 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1600 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Brothers: A responsible source in the Fatah movement has stated the following:

The world media have disseminated official Libyan accusations against the Fatah movement, saying that it has plotted to assassinate Libyan President Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. The Fatah movement denounces these ridiculous fabricated accusations by Libyan officials. However, we cannot let these accusations pass without commenting on the following points concerning Libya's stands

1. During the U.S.-Israeli invasion of Lebanon, the Libyan position was exposed as conniving and, to say the least, impotent. We remained silent on this stand. We only answered a letter by Colonel al-Qadhdhafi in which he asked us to commit suicide. We replied to his letter during the siege of Beirut when we were heroically confronting the enemy. We hoped that Al-Qadhdhafi would be ashamed of himself and stop his calls for suicide.

2. A few weeks ago, Col al-Qadhdhafi unleashed his intelligence men in his people's committees against our Palestinian people. His men killed five of our Palestinian people in prison because they were allegedly affiliated to the At-Tahrir Party [a fundamentalist Muslim organization]. Despite the fact that he had promised the PLO leadership to release them in 1981, elements from the Libyan intelligence apparatus and people's organization executed all of them by hanging, in a bestial manner which made the hanging a horrible method of torture. This takes place at a time when our Palestinian people are being liquidated at the hands of the Zionists and their agents in southern Lebanon.

3. Since the U.S.-Israeli invasion of Lebanon, Al-Qadhdhafi has been waging another war against the PLO and the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples through daily and systematic propaganda against the PLO, thus following the line of the U.S. imperialists and the Zionist enemy which aims to liquidate the PLO politically. We are satisfied so far with exposing this part of Al-Qadhdhafi's practices. We warn Col al-Qadhdhafi of the consequences of indulging in these crimes. We are currently carrying out our responsibilities at this phase through which the region is passing in terms of a possible Zionist aggression against us and the Syrian brothers. We refrain from entering into accusations and counteraccusations with Al-Qadhdhafi because we, as well as Al-Qadhdhafi, are aware that these practices, which are the result of a sick, criminal imagination, cannot break the isolation of Al-Qadhdhafi's regime.

We will not remain silent at the crime committed by Al-Qadhdhafi against our Palestinian people when four of them were hanged in schools in front of students and the fifth was tortured to death in prison. We warn Col al-Qadhdhafi not to make his accusations against Fatah a prelude to committing new murders against our Palestinian people. We will not remain silent, and Col al-Qadhdhafi knows this only too well.

Al-Qadhdhafi Described as 'Agent'

JN111740 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1610 GMT 11 May 83

[Unattributed talk]

[Text] Our kinfolk in occupied land, our hero joint forces fighters in southern Lebanon and Al-Biqa': You are waging an open Palestinian battle against the Zionist enemy. You are fighting on one front facing the Zionist military occupation of our land and

the Zionist invasion of Lebanon. O valiant stone-throwers in Hebron, heroes of the explosive charges in Tel Aviv, and hero RPG fighters in southern Lebanon, Al-Biqa', and the mountain areas, you are the ones agent Al-Qadhdhafi advises to commit suicide. You are the ones now fighting with the Lebanese nationalists, thus translating into real action and practice the slogan of the pan-Arabism of the battle. You are translating this slogan into deeds through your use of stones, explosive charges, and RPG's, not paying any attention to the falsehoods and lies of agents such as Al-Qadhdhafi, who translated the slogan of the pan-Arabism of the battle into acts of sabotage against neighboring Arab countries and invasions of other African states.

Greetings to all of you stone throwers in the occupied land. Praise to you heroes of the RPG's in Al-Biqa' and southern Lebanon, for you have given Al-Qadhdhafi and his ilk a good lesson in steadfastness and confrontation on the battlefield.

PLO Radio Commentary

JN111912 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1630 GMT 11 May 83

[Station political commentary: "Al-Qadhdhafi's Practices Serve Zionism and U.S. Imperialism"]

[Text] Since he seized the power in Libya in 1969 after the free men of Libya managed to overthrow the defunct royal regime, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi has made policies that served, in one way or another, Zionism and U.S. imperialism. We say all this as we face a long chain of Al-Qadhdhafi's treasons and practices against the Palestinian cause, although he has not stopped claiming for one moment that this cause is the cause of all the Arabs and that it is a central pan-Arab issue. Al-Qadhdhafi, however, has employed all his organs against this cause, which is too lofty to be harmed by plotters and treacherous defeatists such as he.

In 1970 Al-Qadhdhafi accused the Palestinian people of selling their land to the Zionists. While hiding behind the slogans of nationalism and Arabism, he made these accusations which are made only by our people's enemies. In 1971 he tried to impose his trusteeship on the PLO under the pretext of the alleged pan-Arabism of the battle. His attempt failed when the PLO stressed that it receives its free decisionmaking process from the free will of the Palestinian people and that the battle against Israel is open for all those who wish to participate. The PLO turned down Al-Qadhdhafi's proposals and rejected his money. Finding himself in an embarassing situation, Al-Qadhdhafi dispatched a battalion of Libyan volunteers, but soon withdrew it immediately after the eruption of the 'Urqub battles in 1972.

In 1973 he announced that he would fight Israel alone if the other Arab countries refrained from fighting. Shortly after that the October 1973 battles began, but Al-Qadhdhafi remained silent. Every Arab citizen then became certain and aware of the disgraceful role designated for Al-Qadhdhafi to play against the Arab nation.

In the years following the October war, Al-Qadhdhafi's image in the Arab nation was as nothing more than a cowardly impostor who is brilliant at making empty rhetorical threats. The Arabs became convinced of the fact that Al-Qadhdhafi is a cheap agent for Zionism and U.S. imperialism, particularly after the shameful stance he adopted during the siege of Beirut. At that time, just as the Palestinian and Lebanese fighters, led by Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], were fighting from one position to another, Al-Qadhdhafi came up with his funny theory in which he asked the valiant fighters to commit suicide. Al-Qadhdhafi's theory came after he had filled the world with his clamorous chants that he was anxiously awaiting the hour of the battle so that he could fight.

We are aware of another disgraceful action by Al-Qadhdhafi, his support for agent Sa'd Haddad, who is known for his treason and his status as watchdog for the Zionist enemy. Al-Qadhdhafi described Haddad as a nationalist, which reminds us of the old proverb: Birds of a feather flock together.

Al-Qadhdhafi's maltreatment and harassment of our Palestinian people need no further explanation. The latest of these was the execution of five Palestinian citizens under the pretext that they had joined an alleged party. He gave free rein to his rabble, who are falsely called revolutionary committees, to pursue the Palestinians who were carrying out their duties to the Libyan people by teaching them and building in the Libyan homeland.

The Zionist hands which assassinated our Palestinian people in Dayr Yasin, Qibya, Kufr Qasim, Sabra, and Shatila, and southern Lebanon and the hands which are now assassinating our people in Libya are the same. Both are criminal hands covered with Palestinian blood. Both are Zionist hands united by crime. Both are hands of cowards, whether they reside in Tel Aviv or in Tripoli, Libya. Sooner or later all these hands will certainly be amputated and those standing behind them will pay dearly.

Our Palestinian people inside and outside the occupied homeland, who are being subjected to murder by the Zionists and Zionist agents such as Al-Qadhdhafi and Sa'd Haddad, will continue to rally around their sole legitimate representative, the PLO and will not be frightened by these cheap, cowardly crimes. Our people will continue the struggle on all fronts against their multifaceted enemies. Our people realize that there are other Zionists such as Al-Qadhdhafi, who will be punished by the people's violent, powerful, and daring hand.

'Arafat Stops in Saudi Arabia, Cables Mugabe

JN111248 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Responsible Palestinian sources said in Damascus that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has stopped over in Saudi Arabia on his way back to Tunis. These sources did not say if 'Arafat held talks with Saudi officials during this stopover. 'Arafat may return to Damascus before visiting Cuba.

In another development, Yasir 'Arafat sent a message to Zimbabwe Prime Minister Robert Mugabe, praising the strong ties between the PLO and Zimbabwe. This message was sent on the occasion of upgrading Palestinian representation in Zimbabwe

to the ambassadorial level.

PLO Radio: 'Arafat Sends Messages to UN Leader

JN111708 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, has sent two messages to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar dealing with the Palestinians' current situation in Lebanon and in the occupied West Bank. The two messages detailed the serious situation under which the Palestinians are living in southern Lebanon, where Palestinian families are being subjected to a campaign of terrorism, threats, and massacres by groups backed by the Zionist forces of invasion.

The two messages, which were circulated at the United Nations, said that the aim of this campaign is similar to that to which the Palestinian people were subjected in the massacres at Sabra and Shatila. The two messages drew the attention of the UN secretary general to the campaign of arrests, demolition of houses, and heavy taxes by the Zionist occupation authorities against Palestinian citizens in the occupied West Bank.

'Arafat: U.S. Aid to Israel 'Hinders' Peace

GF111312 Aden Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1820 GMT 10 May 83

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, has asserted that unlimited U.S. aid and support for the Zionist entity hinders the establishment of peace in the Middle East.

In an interview with the U.S. magazine, U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT, Brother Abu 'Ammar said the Zionist entity relies on this support and toughens its repressive and terrorist practices against the Palestinians in the occupied Arab territories. He said the U.S. Administration uses its veto at the United Nations to hinder efforts to ensure the rights of the Palestinian people. He also said it is impossible to reach a settlement in the Middle East by rejecting the Palestinian people's legitimate rights.

Aden VOP on of U.S. Arms Shipment to Sidon

GF111950 Aden Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1815 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Security reports [taqarir ammiyyah] said that a U.S. warship has approached the coast, which is under the control of the Zionist enemy, under the protection of a frigate. These reports said that this frigate unloaded a large quantity of arms, ammunition, and military vehicles and equipment in a power station near Sidon. The reports further said that this operation — the import of arms believed destined for elements of the agent Sa'd Haddad — was carried out under the protection of Phalangist gang elements, who sealed off the district and prevented anyone from going near it. This operation occurred at time when a number of Lebanese regions are witnessing tension due to armed clashes between the Phalangist gangs and the Socialist Progressive Party forces.

PLO's Al-Wazir on Palestinian Issues, Shultz

PM101331 Jidda 'UKAZ in Arabic 1 May 83 p 8

[Interview with Khalil al-Wazir, Fatah Central Committee member and deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, by Muhammad Mahjub in Saudi Arabia — date not given]

[Excerpts] The first question was about the nature of the Palestinian moves at the Arab level.

[Answer] My visit to the Kingdom is part of the tours of Arab states now being undertaken by PLO members following the series of meetings held by the Palestinian leadership — the meetings of the PLO Executive Committee in Tunis and later the meetings of Fatah's Central Committee. At these meetings a general review was made of the new developments after the suspension of the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue in Amman, as well as the visits of Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] and other Palestinian leaders to various states and the results of these visits, meetings, and political moves. The Palestinian leadership reached certain conclusions and it was decided that delegations would go to a number of Arab countries to discuss with the Arab brothers the nature of these developments and the possible ways of maintaining the Arab political moves in the international arena to ensure that they do not come to a halt. So the contacts are for the purpose of conveying the Palestinian views at this particular stage.

[Question] May we know the broad outline of these conclusions you have reached?

[Answer] We came out with a number of convictions. One conviction is that the current political efforts are futile, although we still believe that the political moves at the international level should continued with adherence to the agreed principles and goals, especially the Fes Arab summit resolutions.

Second, there is a need to determine how the unjust U.S. campaign against the PLO should be confronted. The United States is trying to blame the PLO for its own failure to handle the situation in the region.

The discussions also covered the situation in the occupied homeland and the continuing Israeli oppressive campaign against the compatriots in the occupied territory.

[Question] Has Fatah given 'Arafat an open authorization to initiate dialogue with Jordan?

[Answer] Actually, the Palestinian leadership is characteristically a collective leadership. When Brother Abu 'Ammar discusses an issue he does so on the basis of the position of his comrades and brothers in the leadership, with whom he constantly examines the various topics.

The question of authorization was not discussed because Pal-

estinian leadership work is always by nature subject to continuous examination of the issues in question. A decision is then made and that decision steers our political movement. This is always the case.

[Question] Does the PLO have any conditions for the resumption of the dialogue with Jordan, having discerned the causes of the suspension?

[Answer] The Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue was clearly and frankly suspended because of the difference of opinion regarding the Reagan plan. The brothers in Jordan believe that the Reagan plan contains a mechanism which perhaps makes direct implementation possible. The Palestinian leadership believes that the Reagan plan does not fulfill the Palestinian national needs and does not address Palestinian rights and the PLO. That is why we, as the PLO, cannot respond to the Reagan plan. We emphasized that the Fes resolutions constituted the minimum requirement in the Arab moves and should form the basis of Jordanian-Palestinian joint political moves on the international level. When the Jordanian authorities issued a statement spelling out their position, the Palestinian leadership was very anxious to avoid getting involved in a spiral of action and reaction and refrained from engaging in any peripheral battles because it believed that Jordanian-Palestinian relations should continue on natural grounds. Political disagreement does not mean conflict and more conflict. Each side should understand the other's attitude and we should again look for common grounds to define the political framework for our future relations. At present there is nothing to warrant immediate reactivation of the dialogue but the search is continuing for new grounds for the revival of the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue.

[Question] So the PLO is not naming any special conditions for the resumption of the dialogue with Jordan?

[Answer] It is not a question of conditions. It is simply a matter of a joint attempt to look for something that does not clash with our joint national interests and preserves our Palestinian people's national rights and our Arab cause. For our part we have emphasized that the Fes resolutions should be the basis of our political moves and that all Arab efforts and energies should be geared toward putting more pressure on the United States so that it opens its eyes and sees the fundamental truth, namely that the PLO should not be continuously overlooked and that the Palestinian national rights should not be ignored. These rights are supported by the Arab nation, which has been making sacrifices for many years to protect these rights and the principles it has upheld all these years.

[Question] Does the PLO believe that a U.S. role should be completely excluded or does it want a U.S. role on certain conditions?

[Answer] When we, as the PLO, plan our political moves we must base our planning on a number of essential considerations. The first is how to ensure that the Palestinian political moves always stem from a united Palestinian position. The second is how to ensure broad Arab support for these political moves because if we move alone as the PLO our voice is definitely weaker than if we move with Arab backing for our political moves. That is why we are always eager to secure Arab support and to rely on the aid, backing, and efforts of our Arab nation in our moves at the international level. The ideal thing is to have a united Palestinian and Arab stance. We should not hesitate to enter all fields and to move on all international fronts to get the backing and the support, or the understanding needed for our national rights, especially in Europe, because of the role the European states play in international politics and also because of their influence on the United States.

That is why we have always been eager to encourage European moves and initiative. We still urge all the European states, many of which have begun to understand the nature and truth of the Palestinian national rights, with some recognizing the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, we still urge them to intensify their efforts and moves to bring pressure to bear on the United States so that it hears not only the Palestinian or Arab voice but also the voice of the world, particularly the European states. [sentence as published] We believe that the Arabs should intensify their joint efforts to encourage and boost the European states' moves to play their effective role in international politics.

Another consideration is movement on the American front. We should consider what Palestinian, Arab, and international joint or bilateral efforts, through international bodies or individual friendly states, could be made on the American front and with the U.S. Administration to carry the truth of the Palestinian cause to the U.S. Administration, society, and public opinion and to convey to them more facts about the Palestinian question and the Palestinian people's tragedy. I believe that these continuous political efforts must not stop even if the U.S. Administration persists in its unfair campaign against the PLO and the Palestinian cause in an attempt to discredit the PLO as Reagan and Shultz have done.

[Question] Will George Shultz be meeting with any Palestinian officials or West Bank mayors?

[Answer] I have not heard anything about that but it is clear that Shultz' visit to the region falls within the framework of the campaign launched against the PLO. He and Reagan are trying to drive a wedge between the Palestinian people in the occupied territory and the PLO and the Palestinians abroad. The U.S. Administration, however, knows from U.S. press reports and U.S. diplomatic missions' reports that the central fact remains that the Palestinians inside and outside are all united in support of the PLO as their sole legitimate representative.

[Question] You do not believe that meetings will be held between the West Bank mayors and Shultz?

[Answer] Even if such meetings were held he would hear from them frankly that the Palestinian people in the occupied territory consider the PLO to be their spokesman expressing their will. We are absolutely unafraid of any meeting between any U.S. official and any Palestinian because every Palestinian, feeling the pain and suffering of his people, will emphasize the principal fact that the PLO represents the will of the Palestinian people everywhere.

[Question] What are your expectations regarding Shultz' propos-

als?

[answer] We have not yet heard of any specific declared proposals. Shultz just said that his aim was to achieve agreement in Lebanon. The U.S. Administration should not ignore the main facts in the area. The first is that there can be no settlement if the Palestinian people's national legitimate rights are ignored and that there can be no settlement without direct contact with the PLO. Why does the U.S. Administration continue to ignore these national rights?

[Question] How does the PLO expect to promote a strong and unanimous Arab stance when some sides even have reservations regarding the Arab plan itself?

[Answer] First of all there were no reservations in Fes regarding the Arab plan. There was an Arab consensus regarding the Fes resolutions. The Palestinian position was clear at the latest PNC session. The PNC resolutions accepted the [few] resolutions as a minimum for Arab political moves and significantly stated that the Arab military option should not be dropped. All the Palestinian factions were unanimous in their support for these resolutions.

After the Fes resolutions were unanimously adopted as a minimum by the Arab nation we began to see attempts in the Arab region to circumvent the Fes resolutions and accept the Reagan plan. Our position on this matter has been quite clear. That position is that we must adhere to the Fes resolutions as a minimum and that the Arab nation must not give in to the continuous U.S. pressure and attempts to force on us one concession after another without anything real in return.

We have had long experience of U.S. credibility, as in the case of Lebanon and the Sabra and Shatila massacres, which were committed despite all U.S. promises to guarantee the safety of the Palestinian camps after the departure of the Palestinian fighters, and other cases. All we want is a real commitment to the Fes resolutions by all the Arab sides. If there are other ideas they should be submitted to an Arab summit conference for a decision.

[Question] Are there any contacts with Egypt, and what about the matter of a possible 'Arafat visit to Cairo?

[Answer] The PNC passed certain resolutions regarding relations with Egypt. These resolutions have been misunderstood and misinterpreted. Many of our Egyptian brothers have commented on these resolutions. These resolutions were not meant to offend [Egypt] or to interfere in its domestic affairs. The aim was to state the Palestinian position and the principles which the PNC considered essential for the protection of Palestinian rights, especially in relation to Camp David.

PLO's Abu Mayzar on Reagan Plan, Arab Summit

GF111458 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0903 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 11 May (WAKH) — 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, official spokesman for the PLO, has asserted that the road to a Middle East settlement will remain closed so long asdisregard to the Palestinian issue continues, disregard all the factors involved in this issue — land, people and rights.

In a statement in today's issue of the UAE newspaper AL-ITTIHAD, Abu Mayzar denied the U.S. charge that extremist elements in the PLO refused to authorize Jordan's joining the peace negotiations within the Reagan plan. "This charge implies that there are rifts within the PLO," he said. He affirmed that all the Palestinian revolution factions adhere to the Palestinian resolutions of the PNC and that the Fes summit resolutions are the bases for Arab moves. He expressed the PLO's support for holding an Arab summit if this would enhance and protect the Fes summit resolutions and bring about their implementation.

Abu Mayzar said the Palestinian stand of rejecting the Reagan plan springs from the fact that the plan is not a sound basis for solving the Palestinian issue and the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Abu Mayzar said the fact that no joint Jordanian-Palestinian communique was issued after the negotiations between Yasir 'Arafat and the Jordanian monarch was due to differences in points of views on the Reagan plan, which does not meet the minimum security requirements for Jordan or the Palestinian people.

APS: Arab Cultural Ministers Adopt Documents

LD111548 Algiers APS in English 1336 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Algiers, 1135/83 (APS) — Arab ministers of culture adopted yesterday, a document presented by the Palestinian delegation asking for intensifying and increasing the assistance and the support to Palestinian cultural establishments inside Arab occupied territories. The document also asks for the action to protect the Palestinian patrimony and the creation of new Palestinian cultural centres.

Arab ministers of culture adopted during the second day of their works, another document asking for the end of the war between Iran and Iraq, calling for the carrying on of efforts of mediation to put an end to this conflict which is only serving the interests of enemies of the Arabo-Islamic nation.

On another turn, the participants to this conference adopted a proposition presented by the Kuwaiti delegation expressing the wish to hold the fifth conference of Arab ministers of culture in the Kuwaiti capital in 1985.

Yesterday's conference enabled the congressmen to examine the almost totality of amendments of projects of decisions and recommendations.

On another turn, the draft committee carries on its works for the elaboration of different documents to be submitted, tomorrow, for the adoption.

OAPEC To Hold Meeting in Damascus 25 May
GF110705 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0620 GMT 11 May 83

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 11 May (WAM) — The ministerial council of the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries, OAPEC, will hold a meeting in Damascus on 25 May.

The UAE delegation to the meeting will be led by Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, minister of petroleum and natural resources.

OAPEC Officials Sign Agreement With OLADE

For radio coverage of the 2-7 May visit to Ecuador by an OAPEC delegation, including reportage on an agreement signed with the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE), see the Ecuador section of the 5 and 9 May Latin American DAILY REPORT.

GULF AFFAIRS

UAE Foreign Minister on GCC Move To End War

GF111330 Ash-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 11 May 83 p 1

[Excerpts] Foreign Minister Rashid 'Abdallah said that the GCC foreign ministers studied the issue of intensifying contacts in the next few days to formulate a clear-cut Gulf plan to bring an end to the Iraq-Iran war.

In a statement to AL-KHALIJ, he said the GCC ministers meeting next Sunday will continue to study the issue in order to adopt resolutions representing the GCC'S position. The foreign minister denied that during their Manama meeting the GCC foreign ministersstudied the issue of dispatching Gulf envoys to a number of countries within the move to bring an end to the war. He stated that the GCC countries have received messages from the concerned countries on U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz' visit to the region, including Saudi Arabia, and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad's visit to Saudi Arabia.

The Kuwait newspaper AL-WATAN reported yesterday that during their Manama meeting, the GCC foreign ministers studied the oil slick issue and messages the Iranian envoy conveyed to a number of Gulf countries.

Gulf Technicians Begin Work on Oil Slick

LD111111 Kuwait KUNA in English 1006 GMT 11 May 83

[Excerpt] Kuwait, May 11 (KUNA) — Technicians of the eight-state Regional Organization for the Protection of Marine Environment (ROPME) are to start combating the oil slick floating in Gulf waters this May 18th, it was officially announced here Wednesday.

ROPME's coordinator 'Abd al-Latif Zaydan told KUNA the technicians, meanwhile, will conduct aerial supervision of the Gulf waters before the skimming operation starts next Wednesday.

Zaydan, however, explained that the operation of (?capping) the leaking Iranian oil wells of the Iraqi-shelled Nowruz field is "left for ROPME's ministerial council to deal with." This, according to independent observers, indicates that environment officials of ROPME's eight states have, so far, failed to agree on a plan accepted by warring Iraq and Iran to deal with three damaged wells in the Iranian Nowruz oil field that are spilling crude into the Gulf waters.

GCC Finance Ministers Meet in Riyadh 11 May

LD111342 Riyadh SPA in English 1222 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Riyadh, May 11 — (SPA) — Finance and national economy ministers from the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) started a meeting here today.

The council is made up of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Qatar and Oman.

Finance Ministers Conclude Meeting

LD120229 Riyadh SPA Arabic 2100 GMT 11 May 83

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 11 May (SPA) — The ministers of finance and national economy of the GCC states concluded their meeting which began this morning at the headquarters of the GCC General Secretariat.

Bahraini Minister of Finance and National Economy Ibrahim 'Abd al-Karim stated after the meeting that the issue of custom duties was discussed. The meeting's participants agreed to fix minumum and maximum customs duties that will be proposed to the GCC governments. He added that the participants also discussed the issue of creating uniform services fees in the area, as the Gulf citizen finds a huge difference when he moves from one country to another. He mentioned that it has been agreed to make these fees uniform through the specialized committees that will meet successively to investigate these mattters.

The Bahraini minister, who is also conference chairman, pointed out that the ministers studied the working paper submitted by the governors of central banks and monetary organizations in the GCC countries. The ministers were instructed to study the proposals for monetary coordination and submit their results at the next meeting.

'Abd al-Karim said it was agreed that the ministers of finance and national economy will hold their next meeting on 24-25 October.

SAUDI ARABIA

Prince Sultan Interviewed on Syria, Gulf War

French TV Interview Reported

LD112347 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2205 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Paris, 11 May (SPA) — French TV has tonight interviewed His Royal Highness Prince Sultan Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and aviation. Here is the text of that interview:

Question: Since your highness is now going to sign a very important arms contract, does this justify the situation in your area of the world?

Answer: In any case, my visit to France was not only to sign a contract. It was also a visit to a friendly country and a continuation of the ongoing discussions between the Kingdom and France in order to develop civil and military relations.

Question: The Kingdom has helped France financially; is this going to continue?

Answer: Relations between the two countries indicate that the help from both sides is not going to stop.

Question: Does this mean that the Kingdom is going to give additional financial aid to France?

Answer: When France submits such a request, it will be considered and studied by the Kingdom according to its financial circumstances and abilities.

Question: The arms contract that the Kingdom will sign with France includes a huge amount of arms; does the situation in the area justify this amount of arms?

Answer: There is nothing specific to be signed with France, but there are many contracts that have previously been signed. We are continuing to develop them according to the abilities of both countries.

Question: Does the Mirage-4000 aircraft interest the Kingdom?

Answer: They undoubtedly interest the Kingdom as well as France. We sincerely hope that they will be produced and used [tustathmar] so we can talk about it with the friendly country.

Question: Concerning the current conflict between Iraq and Iran, do Iran and Khomeyni constitute a danger against Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states?

Answer: I think that danger based on the idea that there are weaknesses in the Kingdom or in the Gulf states is not in the cards, but what we mean is that the existing war between the two neighboring countries is not a source of pleasure. We hope this bloodshed will stop, first in the interests of the two countries, and second, in the interests of the area.

Question: What do you think are the possibilities of stopping this war and what is the role that the Kingdom can play?

Answer: The Kingdom is a part of the Islamic world, and it has an effective role within the framework of the seven-man committee to achieve reconciliation, stop the war, and put the dispute on the negotiations table.

Question: But Saudi Arabia stands on the Iraqi side in this conflict.

Answer: Saudi Arabia is always on the side of right and justice. We are not the enemies of Iran; our relations with Iran, whether political or otherwise, continue.

Question: Regarding the Middle East issues, the Kingdom's position is closer to moderation. Shultz has visited Riyadh, then Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad visited Riyadh. Have you interceded with the Syrian president in order to persuade him to accept the agreement that was signed between Lebanon and Israel?

Answer: We did not feel that President al-Asad needs persuasion concerning the interests of fraternal Lebanon, as he always tries to preserve the interests of Lebanon and Syria. Any speculation that there are pressures from the Kingdom on Syria are not in the cards because Syria feels that the interests of Lebanon are the interests of Syria.

[Question] Do you think Syria will accept the agreement, and do you support or call on Syria to accept it?

[Answer] We in the Kingdom call for the immediate withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanon. As to Syria's, or for that matter, Lebanon's acceptance, this is a matter that concerns the people of Lebanon and Syrian policy. However, we believe that there will not be any differences between Syria and Lebanon over Lebanon's interests and keeping the aggressor away from the Lebanese territory.

[Question] Have you asked Syria to withdraw its forces from Lebanon immediately?

[Answer] The Syrian forces entered Lebanon at the request of the legitimate Lebanese Government, and they were not aggressor forces. Hence, their departure from Lebanon will have to be at the request of the Lebanese Government itself.

[Question] Has Lebanon made such a request to Syria?

[Answer] Syria will not be disturbed if Lebanon asks for this, but will hold discussions over it with Lebanon to serve the interests of both countries. At no time has Syria been an aggressor in Lebanon.

[Question] It is expected that you will meet the U.S. defense secretary in Paris. Are there specific reasons for this meeting?

[Answer] I would like to remind you that when the U.S. defense secretary visited the Kingdom last year it was decided that there should be periodic meetings between the two sides whenever time permitted. As I am in Paris now and he will be here also. [sentence as heard] This is part of the cooperation and exchanges that concerns the two countries in the military field and has the interest of the Kingdom.

[Question] It has been said that the U.S. secretary of defense has come especially to meet you.

[Answer] That is possible, which is indicative of the politeness of the U.S. secretary of defense. When he knew I was here, he came over so I would meet him. This is truly a consequence of the good relations between the two countries.

[Question] There are rumors in Paris that the U.S. secretary of defense is trying to get the Kingdom to intervene and persuade Syria to accept the agreement on the withdrawal of forces from Lebanon.

[Answer] I believe that the subject of pressure on the Kingdom from any side is out of the question; and I do not think that there is a friendly country that would think of putting pressure on the Kingdom in any way.

[Question] The Kingdom has great influence over Syria. Does it equal the Soviet Union's influence on Syria?

[Answer] In fact, Syria has a standing [ar makanah] with us. We believe that we have a great standing with our brothers in Syria.

Monte Carlo Interview

JN111937 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Today, our correspondent Faridah ash-Shubashi and other reporters were waiting for Saudi Defense Minister Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz to come out of a meeting with President Mitterrand at the Elysee Palace. She asked him the following question:

[Begin recording] [Ash-Shubashi] Your Highness, what were the issues you discussed with President Mitterrand? Did you deal with the Lebanese-Israeli draft agreement?

[Sultan] Talks mainly dealt with developing Franco-Saudi ties. As for the agreement, his excellency referred to it in the discussions. Our position concerning it is in line with the desire, interests, and political independence of the Lebanese people.

[Ash-Shubashi] Do you expect the draft agreement issue will be raised during your coming talks with U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger, particularly after it has been officially announced in Washington that we will ask Saudi Arabia to pressure Syria to retract its rejection fo the agreement?

[Sultan] First, Saudi Arabia is not a tool in the hands of any other state, big or small, to be used to exercise pressures against the Arab nation's interests. Second, Syria views Lebanon the same way it views Syria itself. Joint Syrian-Lebanese interests are above all other considerations.

[Ash-Shubashi] Does Saudi Arabia support the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon, including the Syrian and Palestinian forces?

[Sultan] The Syrian and Palestinian forces are not forces of aggression; they entered Lebanon at the request of Lebanon. Their withdrawal is subject to the desire of the Lebanese people before anything else.

[Ash-Shubashi] Will your talks in Paris include the Iran-Iraq conflict and its repercussions for the Gulf area, and will you meet with the Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, Tariq 'Aziz, who is currently in Paris?

[Sultan] I do not think so. Brother Tariq 'Aziz is a respected and dear friend. Any meeting between me and any Arab official is an honor for me, but I talked with no official about the Iraq-Iran war.

[Ash-Shubashi] In addition to the accord on developing the (As-Sawari) agreement, will you discuss the purchase of other new weapons with French Defense Minister Charles Hernu?

[Sultan] The talks were meant to promote Saudi-French military relations. France will not hesitate to present anything new to Saudi Arabia, and Saudi Arabia will not hesitate to purchase anything beneficial to its interests. (As-Sawari) is continuing. The project is complete and is not in need of development unless there are technical advances. In this case, France is ready to give them to Saudi Arabia. [end recording]

Papers Comment on Israeli Troop Buildup

LD111256 Riyadh SPA in English 1211 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Riyadh, May 11 (SPA) — Saudi newspapers today devoted their editorial comments to what they all agreed to call the "volatile situation" in the Middle East in the light of Israeli troop buildup on the frontlines in Lebanon.

AL-JAZIRAH, published here, warned against an Israeli attack on Syria with the help of the 25,000 Israeli troops in Lebanon. The paper said the Soviet Government's decision to evacuate Soviet dependents from the Middle East implied that a war was imminent. It predicted that Israel was long planning for this attack on Syria after its talks with Lebanon had reached a deadlock.

The Mecca-based AL-NADWAH, said the recent agreement between Lebanon and Israel was another attempt to neutralise an Arab state in the Arab-Israeli conflict. It went on to say that nobody would agree on any attempt to "alien [as received] Lebanon from Arab ranks and turn its territory into an advanced post for the enemies of the Arab nation." The paper called on the Arabs to drop all foreign projects and proposals and intiate their own version of proposals and initiatives for boosting Arab causes.

AL-BILAD published in Jidda, held Israel responsible for the deterioration in security situation in Lebanon. It said Israel's acceptance of the agreement didn't mean that it would withdraw from Lebanon and warned against what it called negative Arab stands which would present a golden chance to Israel to go ahead with its expansionist designs in the region.

UAE

Abu Dhabi Heir Apparent on French Weapons

GF110730 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 1822 GMT 10 May 83

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 10 May (WAM) — His Highness Lieutenant GeneralShaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid, Abu Dhabi heir apparent and deputy supreme commander of the UAE Armed Forces, has stated that French Defense Minister Charles Hernu proposed France's readiness to provide the UAE Armed Forces with the most advanced French ground, naval, and air weapons.

In an interview with AFP today, his highness said the UAE'S concern for developing its Armed Forces springs from many facts, foremost of which is that the best way to ensure peace is preparedness and strength, and that weakness tempts aggression. He said there should be strength to protect peace against threats, and safeguard the economy and accomplishments of the people.

Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid affirmed that the UAE is a peace-loving country and does not have any aggressive intentions. He said the UAE believes that the Zionist aggression against the Arab nation reflects directly on the Gulf region and constitutes, in itself, the major threat to the region.

Referring to the dimensions of the Iraq-Iran war and the problem of the oil slick in Gulf waters, he said the oil pollution threat to

the region's countries and peoples is an extension of the Iraq-Iran war, which requires a comprehensive solution because it is a key problem.

His highness asserted the UAE'S readiness to support the efforts being exerted to end this painful war and to contribute in stopping the oil gushing from the Iranian Nowruz field within any framework accepted by the concerned parties.

His highness touched upon the UAE'S economic projects and the extent of the impact on them by the drop in oil revenues. He affirmed the UAE'S eagerness to maintain the level of services rendered to its citizens.

The following is the text of the interview:

[Question] What results have you reached with the French minister on the Mirage-2000 deal?

[Answer] Talks with the French defense minister and his delegation concentrated on issues of military cooperation [passage indistinct] its presence and the confirmation of its role through joint coordination with our brothers within the GCC and the Arab League, without any thought of alliances.

If we are seriously concerned about the development and modernization of our Armed Forces it is due to a number of facts: One,the possession of strength does not mean its use; two, the best way to guarantee peace is preparedness and strength — peace should have a weapon; three, weakness tempts aggression, and strength enhances peace against threats; four, peace is so important, it cannot be left unguarded, and security is so important, it cannot be tampered with — a developing economy must be guarded and protected.

In view of these facts, we continue to develop and train our Armed Forces to protect the accomplishments of the UAE people and to contribute to defending the Arab nation. Our firm policy is that we are a peace-loving country and do not have any aggressive intentions against any country of the world. We are linked with our neighbors with the closest ties. We cherish brotherhood and neighborliness and we follow the line of right, justice, and good. Nothing threatens us or disturbs our security except our inclusion in centers of international tension and conflict in the continuing and incessant attempts against the region throughout history by forces that intend to keep us divided among ourselves so they can harm us.

In our view, the Zionist aggression against the Arab nation, represented in the violation of Arab rights and the occupation of Arab territory, reflects directly on our region and constitutes, in itself, the main threat against the region since stability is indivisible. We do not suffer from fear and we do not fear what others fear. Thank God, security in the region is first of all, drawn from the will of the Creator of this universe, and also from the will of its people.

[Question] You have accepted an invitation to visit France. Will this take place during the Le Bourget exhibition in June?

[Answer] We look forward to strengthening our relations with France and to exchanging visits between officials of the two countries at all levels. Yes, I have received an invitation from the French defense minister to visit France and we will make this visit as soon as possible. We are aware of the significance of the Le Bourget exhibition, because of its exhibits of advanced weapons. We will send experts from our Armed Forces to visit this exhibition to view its exhibitions and learn from them.

[Question] What is your armament policy in providing the UAE Army with arms? Did you conclude other arm deals, other than the French weapons? Have you begun to receive the Hawk planes which was announced recently?

[Answer] The issue of diversification of weapons is a vital issue for us and for every country trying to strengthen its army and bolster its strength. We in the UAE are very aware of these facts and we are aware of the seriousness of relying on a single source of weapons. That is why we are always eager to avoid being put at the mercy and whims of arms producing foreign countries by obtaining the most advanced and best weapons from countries that are able to meet our Armed Forces' requirements, according to our conditions and not theirs.

For example, we purchase French arms without any political conditions that would fetter our freedom and independence. This is a firm and principled policy we adhere to in all military agreements, which we conclude to provide our forces with ground, naval, and air weapons. Accordingly, we obtain weapons from many sources, including Italy, the FRG, and Britain, which will provide us with the Hawks shortly.

[Question] To what extent will the defense budget be affected by the state's economic circumstances and the policy to ration expenditures?

[Answer] It was natural after the remarkable drop in our oil revenues to reconsider the implementation of a number of projects. We are trying to achieve a balance between revenues and expenditures and to amend our expenditures policy in a way that will not affect development or upset economic activity while preserving the level of services rendered to citizens.

As for the defense budget, we hope expenditures will continue according to the rates that were adopted for armament and training programs without any amendments.

[Question] You said some projects will be cancelled. Will this involve projects to develop the offshore oilfields? What alternatives are the government studying to use the investments that have actually been used to improve the Zakum and(Umm ad-Dalakh) fields?

[Answer] The investments that have actually been used to improve the Zakum and (Umm ad-Dalakh) fields have not been uselessly spent or are they threatened to be so. We are fully aware of the policy of international oil companies, which were trying to get the highest profits in the shortest time with the smallest investments.

In developing the Zakum and (Umm ad-Dalakh) oilfields I can say that we had an experience which, thank God, was a wonderful

example of our determination to improve our oilfields, pre serve our resources, and fully exploit them for the sake of present and future generations. It is true that the investments that were allotted to the improvement of the Zakum oilfield, which is the biggest field in the Abu Dhabi offshore area, amounted to about 3 billion dollars, still, we are proud that this enormous accomplishment will probably bear fruit in early 1983. The Zakum oilfield began actual production of light oil in early April. This constitutes a qualitative step in the UAE on the oil level. Besides its contribution in increasing our confirmed oil reserves, it plays a large role in enhancing our oil and economic role on the international level. As for the (Umm ad-Dalakh) field, necessary preparations to begin production will begin by the end of 1984.

[Question] It was said today in the GULF DAILY NEWS that the UAE agreed to Iran's proposal to run naval defense patrols around the Nowruz field on the condition that Iraq agrees to this. How true is this, and what are the contacts you are making in this respect, and how far prepared are you to carry out this task?

[Answer] The oil pollution threatening the Gulf countries and peoples is surely an extention of the Iraq-Iran war, which also requires a comprehensive solution because it is a key problem. If we all call for a halt to this pollution, which is threatening our water and marine resources, we call even more strongly for an end to the shedding of Muslim blood and the destruction of men, which constitutes a dissipation of the two Muslim countries. Our position from the very beginning of this painful conflict, and we still hold to this conviction, is that we must work with all means and ways to stop the fighting and end the dispute through peaceful means.

While appreciating the good offices and sincere efforts of all parties to reach a just and honorable solution to the dispute, we still call for the need to continue and intensify these efforts because the war has lasted so long. An immediate stop to the hostilities will undoubtedly create the atmosphere suitable for solving all problems in accordance with the spirit of an Islamic brotherhood and its principles, international norms and regulations, and within the framework that serves the general good of Arab and Islamic brotherhood.

We, in the UAE, are ready to support all efforts to stop this war stemming from our deep eagerness and firm conviction that the establishment of peace and security in this region serves its people first of all. This stand, in fact, is the firm policy to which the UAE has been committed since the outbreak of this hated war between Iraq and Iran. We are ready to contribute to stopping the oil gushing from the Iranian Nowruz oilfield in any formula the concerned parties accept to avert this threat.

KHALEEJ TIMES: 1982 Oil Exports Decrease

GF101100 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 10 May 83 P 1

[Text] The UAE's petroleum exports have decreased from DH72.1 billion in 1980 to DH67.2 billion in 1981 and to DH53.1 billion in 1982, according to the 1982 annual report of the Central Bank, which was published yesterday.

The report said that revenue from petroleum is the main source of meeting the government expenditure — both on the local and the federal level — and the decrease has affected the federal expenditure, which depends on contributions from both the Abu Dhabi and Dubai Emirates. The report attributed the fall in exports to international developments, surplus of oil, policies of the industrialised nations to save energy.

On the other hand gas exports have increased from DH2.2 billion in 1980 to DH4.4 billion in 1981 and DH5.5 billion in 1982. Other exports and re-exports have also increased from DH7.2 billion in 1980 to DH8.4 billion in 1981, but decreased slightly to DH8.3 billion in 1982.

The report said that imports totalled DH34 billion in 1982 as compared to DH36 billion in 1981. It said that this was due to the decrease in the rate of inflation in most of the exporting countries, and also because of the international economic recession. Rise in the value of the dirham against the European and Japanese currency also helped cut the cost of imports.

The Central Bank report mentioned that the surplus in the current account in 1982 was DH25.7 billion as against DH33.8 billion in 1981. The total surplus in the balance of payments decreased from DH12.9 billion in 1981 to DH6 billion in 1982. The latter sum was distributed among monetary agencies, government establishments and the International Monetary Fund.

The report said that preliminary estimates of the combined account for the general finance in the state had showed that the total revenues had decreased from DH50.5 billion in 1981 to 39.5 billion in 1982. Petroleum revenues decreased from DH45.5 billion to DH34.6 billion in the same period.

The Central Bank report said that the expenditure decreased from DH44.8 billion in 1981 to DH41.8 billion in 1982. It said that development expenditure increased from DH8.4 billion in 1981 to DH9 billion in 1982, while the current expenditure decreased from DH27 billion in 1981 to DH26.3 billion in 1982.

The rise in development expenditure was due to the expenditure on health, agriculture, industry and electricity.

The report said that contributions and capital payments decreased from DH9.4 billion in 1981 to DH6.5 billion in 1982. This sum includes the help extended to African and Asian countries.

The Central Bank report mentioned that the slack economic development in the country started in the mid-1981. In spite of this rents increased in 1982 differing in amount in different emirates. But, the report said, fall in prices of some of the imported goods, and fall in inflation rates in the exporting countries helped limited the rise locally.

The expansion of lending and increase in the currency in circulation were low compared to the previous years, so, the report said, the inflation rate in the country was expected to fall from 15 percent in 1981 to 10 percent in 1982 with reference to the standard of living in the Abu Dhabi emirate.

Cabinet Reviews Lebanon Agreement, 5-Year Plan

NC111504 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] During its meeting today under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din, the Cabinet reviewed subjects pertaining to the Lebanese-Israeli agreement. Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali explained that Egypt played a prominent role in supporting the Lebanese position and in holding continuous contacts with Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil, the U.S. Administration, the PLO, and the European states interested in the problem.

State Minister for Information Safwat ash-Sharif stated after the meeting that the Cabinet affirmed that this agreement is regarded as progress on the path of peace. He added that during this meeting, the Cabinet discussed the general framework of the development plan for fiscal year 1983-1984, which begins in July. Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din declared in the meeting that implementation of projects listed in the 5-year plan is the real challenge facing national action. He also declared that during the first year of the 5-year plan, which ends 30 June, 315 projects in various spheres have been implemented.

MENA Reports Veliotes Arrival in Cairo 11 May

NC112125 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2115 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Cairo, 11 May (MENA) — Nicholas Veliotes, assistant U.S. secretary of state for Middle East affairs, arrived in Cairo from Paris tonight on a 2-day visit to Egypt.

It has been learned that Veliotes will convey to officials here a letter from U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz on the Middle East situation.

The U.S. official was met at the airport by Muhammad Tharwat, an ambassador at the Foreign Ministry.

Scientific Cooperation Discussed with FRG

NC111039 Cairo MENA in English 1025 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Cairo, May 11 (MENA) — Means by which to promote scientific, educational and technological relations between Egypt and the Federal Republic of Germany were discussed at a meeting today by Dr Mustafa Kamal Hilmi, deputy premier for services and minister of education, and Dr Heinz Riesenhuber, German minister of research and technology, and his accompanying delegation.

The two sides reviewed the joint Egypt-German cooperation projects and means of promoting them, particularly projects that make use of modern German technology and technical training in the different industrial fields.

The German minister had arrived here on Monday leading a technical delegation on a five-day visit to Egypt at the invitation of Engineer Mahir Abazah, minister of electricity and energy.

Meeting Held With Romanian Cooperation Committee

NC111324 Cairo MENA in English 1155 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Cairo, May 11 (MENA) — The joint Egyptian-Romanian committee for economic, industrial and technical cooperation, convened today to discuss the feasibility of promoting bilateral economic cooperation in the coming phase.

Minister of Investment Affairs and International Cooperation Dr. Wajih Shindi chaired the Egyptian side, while the Romanian first deputy premier represented his country.

Dr Shindi reviewed during the meeting the features of the state's five-year plan, the development of the Egyptian economy in the past period and the Egyptian Government's keenness to promote national economy and step up development rates in the various spheres.

Dr Shindi also dealt with Egyptian-Romanian relations in the fields of housing, reconstruction, industry, agriculture, electricity, railways and maritime transport.

The chairman of the Romanian delegation pointed to Romania's industrial and agricultural progress and expressed his country's readiness to offer every economic and technical aid in the various fields in Egypt.

The two sides agreed to form technical committees of experts from the two countries to discuss the feasibility of developing and cementing bilateral industrial, economic and technical cooperation.

The Romanian side also showed readiness to contribute to some ventures within the five-year plan and set up joint projects between the two countries.

The meeting also dealt with means of increasing the volume and balance of bilateral trade exchange through the export of non-traditional commodities from Egypt to Romania.

A protocol of the 14th session of joint Egyptian-Romanian committee for economic cooperation is to be signed tomorrow.

Meanwhile, a Romanian economic, industrial and technical delegation had arrived here yesterday for a five-day visit.

Prime Minister Sees Romanian, FRG Delegations

NC112102 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din this evening met with the Romanian economic delegation currently visiting Cairo, which is led by Romanian First Deputy Prime Minister Gheorghe Oprea. Minister of International Investment and Cooperation Dr Wajih Shindi, who attended the meeting, said the meeting dealt with aspects of cooperation between the two countries and with the projects Romania is implementing jointly with Egypt, including phosphate, chemical, and agricultural mechanization projects.

Prime Minister Dr Muhyi ad-Din also received FRG Minister of Research and Technology Dr Heinz Riesenhuber and the delegation accompanying him this evening. Minister of Electricity and Energy Mahir Abazah, who attended the meeting, said the meeting dealt with Middle East developments. The German minister conveyed the FRG Government's intention to continue supporting the peace efforts in the Middle East and the legitimate Arab rights. Abazah added that the discussion also dealt with developing cooperation between Egypt and the FRG in the peaceful use of nuclear energy and in the technological, industrial, and agricultural spheres. An agreement for technical cooperation between Egypt and the FRG in the energy spheres was signed this evening.

Integration Official Makes Statement
NC111240 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1027 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Cairo, 11 May (MENA) — Following the audience that he was given by President Husni Mubarak this morning, Abu Bakr 'Uthman, secretary general of the Higher [Egyptian-Sudanese] Integration Council, stated that a review was made at the meeting of all the subjects related to the process of integration between the south and the north of the [Nile] valley. He said: We have submitted to the president a report on the steps that have been taken toward implementation of the decisions that were made by the Higher Integration Council at its session that was held in Khartoum on 22 February.

Abu Bakr 'Uthman added that the decisions that were made by the Higher Integration Council included tangible measures, including cutting fares for travel between the two countries, connecting the two countries in an even stronger manner, particularly in the integration zones by operating flights for the first time, running a shipping line to connect Port Sudan to Suez, increasing river transportation, removing the restrictions on trade between the two countries, waiving all customs and administrative restrictions, and preparing for the issuance of valley of the Nile [identity] cards, which will enable the compatriots in the north and south of the valley to move freely. He said that these cards will be issued within the next few weeks.

Abu Bakr 'Uthman said in conclusion that the coming phase will witness intensive efforts, because the Nile Valley Parliament — the first ever unified parliament for the valley of the Nile — will be convened within the coming weeks. This parliamentary session will be followed by numerous meetings of the technical committees that will map out detailed policies. All these meetings will be crowned with the meetings of the Higher Integration Council that will be held next August in Alexandria.

U.S. Aided Scientific Research Plan Approved
NC111817 Cairo MENA in English 1735 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Washington, May 11 (MENA) — The joint U.S.-Egyptian committee on scientific and technological cooperation concluded its meetings here today by approving the Egyptian scientific research plan and recommending its priority implementation in cooperation between the two countries.

Dr Ibrahim Badran, president of the Egyptian Academy of Sciences who headed the Egyptian side said that the committee [word indistinct] papers submitted by the Egyptians on the land reclamation policies, suitable irrigation techniques for reclaimed desert areas and horizontal agricultural expansion.

He said that a complete plan has been worked out for the national information network which will serve the sectors of scientific research, technology and production. The network is being established in cooperation with Georgia University.

The committee, which meets every six months alternately in Cairo and Washington and is financed by the U.S. Agency for International Development, opened its meetings here last Monday.

AL-AHRAM Says Israel Behind Hitler Diaries
NC111056 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0425 GMT 11 May 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the title "Two Shouts," the newspaper AL-AHRAM says: A surprising ambiguity now prevails over Israel. It is also possible to say that since the publication of the report on Sabra and Shatila and since the ensuing step that was taken by Sharon in moving from the Ministry of Defense to the Ministry of State, everything seems quiet. Perhaps this is the calm before the storm on the Israeli side.

The paper adds: In fact, a stone has ricocheted off the surface of calm water, creating circular ripples. This stone was Israel's agreement in principle on the Shultz plan for the withdrawal from Lebanon. However, this agreement has been lukewarm, conditional, and extremely reserved, and it has not been accompanied by any of the usual Israeli propaganda.

Similarly, the wave of poisonings has receded from the West Bank, giving way to a cooler and more painful policy, that is, the construction of settlements and the insistent and persistent entrenchment of this concept.

Through the suspicious silence that has descended on Israel, two croaking shouts were heard. Although these two shouts were noticeable, they could have been audible but also meaningless.

The first shout was raised over Hitler's diaries. The German magazine STERN has ceased publishing these diaries because it has been proved that they were forgeries. Through this clamor, only slight whispers were heard over the role that was played by Israeli intelligence in their dissemination. One indeed wonders whether this action was yet another distraction with which Israel wanted to preoccupy the world to divert the world's attention from the tragedy that Israel is inflicting on the Arabs and the Palestinians, and whether, by reviving the memory of the Jews' persecution at the hands of Hitler, Israel wanted to blur its crimes and the problems of others in Lebanon and the West Bank.

The paper says: When it comes to the other shout, it is in fact the report that has been published to the effect that thousands of

Jewish astrologers will convene a conference in Israel at the end of this year to forecast the events of next year, including the destruction of Israel.

Opposition Paper Disputes Mubarak Speech

PM110853 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 4 May 83 p 1

[Editorial: "We Agree and Disagree with President Mubarak"]

[Text] President Husni Mubarak's May Day speech was not an ordinary speech like the speeches routinely delivered on certain occasions. It tackled a number of important issues such as :

1. The president clearly stated that the U.S. Administration was wrong to fight [muharabat] and belittle the PLO because the PLO is the body accepted by the Palestinian people as their representative and defender of their interests, and their choice has been unanimously supported by the Arab nation.

2. In his speech the president was brave in admitting that there was something wrong with the economic structure resulting in major social tremors. A citizen who cannot find enough to eat and cannot find adequate shelter cannot possibly be sure of his future.

3. The president emphasized the major role of the public sector as being the cornerstone of progress and development and as such it must be given maximum backing and support.

4. The president also said that democracy is a way of thinking and a way of life in which decisions are made by the majority and in which there is greater participation by the people in the making of the state's general policies and decisions, et cetera.

There is no doubt that all these points are, in broad terms, positive points which could be adopted and developed. However, there were other points in the speech which we believe it is our right and duty to dispute. We mainly disagree with the way President Mubarak handled the question of the opposition parties and, in particular, the opposition press. We consider that way to be an infringement on the very essense of democracy.

The president of the republic, and leader of the National Democratic Party [NDP], charged that the opposition press lacked objectivity and resorted to the method of incitement, defamation, distortion, and despair. He also said that every paper is controlled by one or two people. He maintained that no party paper had submitted a single proposal or piece of advice to the government or tackled the economic problems of the country, et cetera.

With the president's permission, we put to him the following facts as evidence that this charge is unfounded:

1. AL-AHALI is not controlled by one or two people or by a certain ideological trend as claimed by the reports and press of the ruling party, and what a ruling party: It is run by a 7-member board of directors elected by the central committee which was elected by the general congress in April 1980 and by an 11-member editorial board.

2. We are not a paper of incitement, defamation, and distortion. Ours is a paper which firmly and resolutely fights all kinds of corruption and as such it poses a threat to certain established interests. Ours is a paper which voices opinion and which studies and discusses the people's problems and vital interests with complete honesty and objectivity.

Contrary to what the president maintained, AL-AHALI does make suggestions and it does propose solutions to every problem it discusses. It is sufficient to just mention one case which is of interest to all of us and which the president raised in his speech: the economic crisis. In the last six editions of AL-AHALI five of the paper's writers and party economic experts presented a thorough analysis of the economic crisis and suggested solutions to the problems of inflation, shortage of food cereals, high imports, the public sector, social injustices, the Egyptians working abroad, the drop in oil prices and other matters. Did the president ask his aides to compile these studies — and there were many more in AL-AHALI — to see for himself whether or not we were telling the truth and whether or not we were right. Those who reported to him on AL-AHALI and other publications did not tell him the truth and were serving their own interests.

The president had certain observations to make regarding the opposition press — this is his right although we disagree with him — but were there no observations he could make regarding the ruling party's paper and the so-called national papers which are monopolized by the ruling party?

Mr President, democracy, if based on the constitution, the law, and the will of the masses, not the will of individuals or of the ruling party, cannot be harmed or threatened by 1 or even 10 opposition papers. Democracy does not fail to tolerate an opinion or word no matter how harsh because the people make the final decision.

Briefs

French Naval Visit — Alexandria, May 10 (MENA) — An important collection of French Navy ships arrived today at Alexandria Port for a weeklong visit, as a token of friendship and good relations between Egypt and France. The ships include an aircraft carrier, a frigate, and missile launcher and a fuel supply ship. They have a combined crew of [figure indistinct] officers and men. The aircraft carrier has 40 combat planes. [Text][Cairo MENA in English 1720 GMT 10 May 83 NC]

Communique: 'Naval Target' Destroyed 11 May

JN111730 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1705 GMT 11 May 83

[Communique No 1,088 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 11 May]

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our triumphant Armed Forces are continuing their daring operations against enemy forces, inflicting further losses and defeats on them. The results for last night and today are as follows:

1. Today, an enemy naval target was spotted south of the Iranian Nowruz oilfield. Our heroic naval forces and their air force attacked it with their weapons and were able at 1340 today to score a direct, effective hit, setting the target on fire. Dense columns of smoke were seen billowing from the target.

2. Using various weapons, our forward units attacked an enemy concentration in front of their positions in the central sector of the front, killing seven soldiers and wounding several others, destroying two vehicles, two infantry positions, two hardware stockpiles and one observation post. Explosions were heard in enemy positions and hardware stockpiles.

3. An enemy concentration was sighted in front of one of our forward units in the area east of Basra. Using various weapons, our units opened fire, killing three, and destroying one vehicle and several small boats. In the same sector today, an Iranian soldier sought refuge with our forces, fleeing Khomeyni's tyranny and his sanguinary regime. He was evacuated to the rear in complete peace and safety.

4. Three were killed and one infantry position destroyed in front of our forward positions in the Maysan sector.

5. The criminal Khomeyniite clique's artillery today shelled Khanaqin and its suburbs, the Khurmal subdistrict, and the township of Zurbatiyah, causing damage to civilian establishments.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 11 May 1983

'Naval Target' Destroyed 10 May

JN111733 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1710 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. It has been ascertained that today, an important Iranian military target in the northern part of the Arab Gulf was destroyed yesterday by our daring Air Force planes.

Spokesman Denies Downing of Iraqi Planes

JN111842 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1825 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Baghdad, 11 May (INA) — An Iraqi military spokesman this evening refuted Iranian claims that an Iraqi fighter from a formation of four was shot down. In a statement to INA, the spokesman affirmed that the rotten imagination of the Iranian regime makes such claims in search of wishes and delusions.

He said that the military communique issued by the Armed Forces General Command refutes such claims, which are also refuted by logic and reality.

An Iraqi military communique this evening indicated that an Iranian naval target lying south of the Iranian Nowruz oilfield was destroyed by the Iraqi Navy with the help of the Air Force.

Iraq To Strike at Petrochemical Complex in Iran

JN120654 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0640 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] Baghdad, 12 May (INA) — Iraq has threatened it will again strike at the Iranian petrochemical complex in Bandar-e Khomeyni in the south of Iran.

An official Iraqi spokesman has advised the Japanese Government not to get involved in repairing the complex, which will continue to be a target of the Iraqi naval force and its missiles as long as the war is raging. This came in a statement the spokesman made today to INA commenting on the visit to Tokyo of an Iranian delegation for talks with Japanese officials regarding the repair of the complex, which was previously hit by Iraqi warplanes.

The spokesman affirmed that Iraq will attack the complex again once the repair work commences, and that Iraq will not be responsible for the harm that might be inflicted on the Japanese personnel.

Tariq 'Aziz Confers With France's Mauroy

JN111711 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1700 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Paris, 11 May (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met with French Premier Pierre Mauroy this evening. Following the meeting, in a statement to the INA correspondent, Tariq 'Aziz said that the talks dealt with relations between Iraq and France.

The meeting was attended by Dr Samal Majid Faraj, the Iraqi minister of planning; Dr Muhammad al-Mashshat, the Iraqi ambassador to France; and several French officials.

AD-DUSTUR Condemns 9 May Amman Explosions

JN111134 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 11 May 83 p 24

["This Is Our Word" column by 'Abd ar-Rahim 'Umar, headlined "Cut Off the Wicked Hands"]

[Text] We neither want to anticipate events and accuse any side nor anticipate the investigation and hold a certain side responsible for the two explosions that occurred in Amman the night before last. However, we would like to note that despite the mysterious fire, which flares up strongly and continuously at some times and intermittently at others in the Arab countries confronting Israel, Jordan is the only frontline country that has managed, despite minor incidents, to safeguard its security and prevent anyone from tampering with its destiny. It has also managed to prevent the disasters afflicting the three others Arab countries from undermining its security and tampering with its destiny.

Choosing two U.S. establishments as targets for the explosions is primarily aimed at Jordan's security. Evidence of this is the fact that the explosions took place in the evening, thus avoiding the killing of any particular person. Further evidence is the size of the explosive charge, which reveals that the purpose was to create confusion and not to destoy this or that establishment. The current political situation in the region — a situation in which our position in Jordan is particularly sensitive and important —increases the possibility that those two minor incidents could be a prelude to bigger and more serious incidents. This indicates the importance of the man in the street's cooperation with the competent authorities and his communication of any information that could help identify the perpetrators and expose the scheme they are implementing. This cooperation expresses true patriotism in guarding the homeland and preventing wicked hands from shedding the blood of its sons.

The possible aims are many and we have only briefly referred to the political ones. However, it is possible that these explosions are aimed at creating a state of chaos that could directly affect the economic situation, which is currently being affected by the economic disturbance to which this region is exposed as part of the current international economic crisis. We do not want to go into details well known by the enlightened citizen, but we ask all the homeland's people to destroy the sedition which is trying to raise its head. We also ask all, each from his position, to act in a responsible and enlightened manner is capable of forestalling all evil intentions against this dear homeland.

Radio Reports Shultz' Statement to PETRA

JN110930 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Paris — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz has asserted that President Reagan will continue his efforts to achieve a just and lasting peace in the Middle East. In a statement to the PETRA representative in Paris during the press conference he held yesterday, the U.S. secretary of state said: We are fully convinced that peace in the Middle East is necessary to implement what is in the Reagan plan concerning the region.

He added: An agreement has been reached concerning Lebanon providing for the necessity of the Israeli forces' withdrawal from Lebanon. We hope that the Syrian and Palestinian forces will also withdraw to give Lebanon the opportunity to live in peace. He said: All the Arab leaders I met with recently have affirmed their support for any agreement that will guarantee the withdrawal of foreign forces from the Lebanese territories.

Shultz called on the USSR to adopt a positive position on the agreement and to persuade Syria to withdraw its forces from Lebanon. On his appraisal of the Saudi-Syrian talks between His Majesty King Fahd and President Hafiz al-Asad, the U.S. secretary of state said: I have no comment on these talks, but I do know that Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal has asserted that there is no room for despair and that we have to work to insure the complete withdrawal of all foreign forces from the Lebanese territories. Shultz added: The Syrians have some objections to the Lebanese-Israeli agreement, but that is not the problem. The problem is: Will Syria withdraw its forces from Lebanon, especially since Damascus has always announced that its forces are in Lebanon at the request of the Lebanese Government, and that it will withdraw these forces if requested to do so? The Lebanese Government will make this request.

Daily on Lebanese-Syrian Conflicting Interests

JN111151 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 11 May 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Lebanese-Israeli Agreement and the Conflicting Interests," SAWT ASH-SHA'B says: It is obvious that the Lebanese issue is now entering a new and critical stage of the conflict, after Lebanon's acceptance in principle of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement and Syria's frank rejection of this agreement. This clear contradiction in the positions of the two fraternal countries means a conflict of interest between them that goes beyond this point and reflects the conflict of interest between Moscow, which rejects U.S. solutions in the region, and Washington, which insists on tackling the issues of the region unilaterally and isolating the Soviet role ever since it went back on the U.S.-Soviet statement of 1977.

Due to its special situation, long tribulation, and the many dangers it faces, Lebanon is forced to accept the agreement, despite its flaws, because it views the agreement from the perspective of its national security, sovereignty over its territory, and its desire to entrench its right to sovereignty on every inch of its territories up to its international border.

Syria views the agreement as limiting its freedom of movement in the region and completely ignoring its role and demands in any Lebanese-Israeli settlement. Although Syria, which raises the slogan of unconditional Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon, does not have the ability to achieve this demand or an alternative to the agreement that will guarantee Lebanese interests, it is ready to sacrifice Lebanon's national priorities for the sake of its own interests. As Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil said, this will

mean tacit perpetuation of the occupation of the Lebanese territories. The danger of the new situation is that it places Lebanon in confrontation with Syria, and places Israel in a comfortable position before the world. The agreement placed the responsibility for the Lebanese solution on the Arabs. The Arab contradictions appear before the world as if they are the obstacles to the achievement of a settlement of the Lebanese crisis. These Arab differences on the Lebanese-Israeli agreement may spread to cover the entire Arab arena. Therefore, they should be solved within the framework of Arab efforts and joint pan-Arab responsibility.

SAWT ASH-SHA'B concludes: This matter deserves a meeting of the Arab leaders to discuss and adopt a position dictated by pan-Arab and Lebanese interests, so these interests will not be left subject to the calculations of international polarization and the interests of the big powers in the region. The Syrian-Lebanese differences on the agreement is a new Arab wound which might enlarge and destroy the essential interests of the two fraternal countries, and serve as a good opportunity for Israel to rebel in Lebanon and remove Lebanon from the Arab arena. And here lies the danger.

Hasan Leaves; 'Abdallah Appointed Regent

JN121143 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] Amman — Crown Prince Hasan left Amman for the United States this morning to address, on behalf of His Majesty King Husayn, the 11th annual congress of the National Assembly of Arab Americans, scheduled to be held in Washington under the heading: The United States and the Arab World are partners for the sake of peace.

His highness was seen off at Amman airport by His Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn Husayn; Prime Minister Mudar Badran; Chief of the Royal Hashemite Court Ahmad al-Lawzi; Chief Chamberlain His Highness Prince Ra'd ibn Zayd; the Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces Staff Lieutenant General ash-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir; His Eminence Chief Qadi Ibrahim al-Qattan; the ministers; and the U.S. ambassador in Amman.

His Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn Husayn was sworn in as the regent before Crown Prince Hasan and in the presence of the Cabinet member during the absence of his majesty and the crown prince from the homeland.

A royal decree has been issued appointing His Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn Husayn as the regent during the absence of the crown prince.

Reportage on Draft Agreement With Israel

Texts To Be Exchanged

NC111751 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] U.S. presidential envoy Philip Habib today met with Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzaq Shamir. He then held a meeting of the U.S. and Israeli delegations for the purpose of concluding today the discussion of the required clarification of some clauses of the agreement.

Habib returned to Beirut this afternoon, bringing with him the final legal text. He was accompanied by Morris Draper.

The Lebanese and Israeli texts of the agreement are to be exchanged during the meeting of the three delegations in Netanya preparatory to fixing the date and venue for signing the agreement.

Habib, Draper, Dillon Talks

NC111950 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] U.S. presidential envoy Ambassador Philip Habib and Ambassadors Draper and Dillon began talks with Lebanese senior officials at the Presidential Palace at 2000 today. The U.S. delegation will acquaint the Lebanese side with what it has brought with it from Israel about the Lebanese-Israeli agreement.

Al-Jumayyil, Al-Wazzan Meet Cabinet

NC112000 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil emphasized to the Cabinet which convened tonight, that work is proceeding at a quick pace to complete the dossier of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement in a final manner so that contacts may then be made with the Arab governments to inform them of the Lebanese viewpoint and to acquaint them with what has been achieved on the basis of the basic principles to which Lebanon has often declared its adherence.

During the meeting, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan spoke about the clarifications and explanations which Israel had requested and which had not arisen before the Israeli Government announced its agreement in principle to the draft agreement. He affirmed that Lebanon is prepared to provide the necessary clarifications. He emphasized that these clarifications will be within the context of what Lebanon has committed itself to and that Lebanon will not acquiesce in these proposals [as heard] constituting a reconsideration of what has already been agreed upon.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan then dealt with the security situation, pointing to the tension prevailing in the mountain — an area which the legitimate Lebanese authority has not reached. The prime minister said that contacts are underway in a continuous and intensive manner and that all parties are well prepared to close any gap in our internal ranks at a time when we must confront Israel on a tenacious line so as to serve the supreme national interests and to achieve a withdrawal of all the foreign forces from Lebanon.

Habib Talks End 11 May

NC112122 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] The Lebanese-U.S. talks ended around 2130 tonight at the Presidential Palace. They centered on what U.S. presidential envoy Philip Habib brought from Israel. The Lebanese side was briefed by Ambassador Habib on the Israeli answers he brought with him this evening from Israel regarding the clarifications the Israelis are demanding. It is known that the clarifications will not impede the signing of the agreement, but they might affect its implementation if they remained ambiguous.

Lebanese officials are making every effort to clarify the points in a manner commensurate with the spirit of the agreement and within the framework of the basic Lebanese principles, due to the fact that Lebanon is embarking on the agreement strengthened with a popular support, not from love for the agreement but for effecting the withdrawal of all the foreign armies from its territory.

Netanya Negotiations To Be Held 13 May

NC112148 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2115 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] It was decided that the Cabinet will hold an extraordinary session tomorrow. It was also decided that the tripartite negotiations will be resumed in Netanya on Friday [13 May]. Our correspondent has said that after the discussions on the clarifications ended, it was agreed that the agreement will be signed by the heads of the three delegations after authorization is given by their governments. The agreement will be in four languages: Arabic, French, English, and Hebrew, and that in the event there is a disagreement the French and the English language versions will be adopted. After it is signed, the draft agreement will be endorsed by the Cabinet and will be referred, by decree, to the Chamber of Deputies.

13 May Session Planned

NC112212 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] The Cabinet will today, Thursday, hold an extraordinary session to discuss the clauses of the Lebanese-U.S.-Israeli agreement because it has reached the final stage. The tripartite negotiations will be resumed in Netanya on Friday [13 May], to put the final touches to the clauses of the agreement.

Ministry Receives Report on Al-Asad-Fahd Talks

NC110738 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] The attention of the Lebanese Foreign Ministry is focused on following up the Arab and international reactions to the Lebanese-Israeli draft agreement. This is being done through the diplomatic dispatches which the ministry has received from abroad and which reflect the stance of various states.

Foreign Ministry Secretary General Ambassador Fu'ad At-Turk has received the secretary of the Lebanese Embassy in Jidda, Ibrahim 'Uwaydat, who arrived in Beirut yesterday morning to convey a report from the Lebanese ambassador there on the talks Saudi King Fahd and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad held on the current situation in Lebanon.

'Uwaydat later met with the foreign minister at the Republican Palace to convey the diplomatic report to him.

RFL on Evacuation of Soviet Nationals

NC111342 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] One of the signs of tension is the continued evacuation of Soviet nationals from Beirut. Some 23 persons, including 12 women, left aboard an Aeroflot plane today [all figures as heard].

Earlier, 30 Soviet diplomats arrived at Beirut airport and scattered around. Some sat in the waiting room, others in the transit hall, some in the cafeteria and some others entered the duty free shopping area. Asked why they were leaving, some replied that they are afraid of the Beirut shelling, especially as there are no shelters in the embassy building. A short time later, a bus carrying 12 women and 11 children arrived at the airport. After completing their formalities, they left on the plane. The diplomats then returned to the embassy on the bus.

We point out at this juncture that the Soviet plane was small and that it was scheduled to arrive in Lebanon at 1300 this afternoon instead of 0900 in the morning.

Informed sources have attributed the reasons for the recall of the Soviet nationals to Moscow to Soviet fears of retaliation for the U.S. Embassy explosion operation which was carried out by the Soviet and Syrian intelligence.

Beirut Radio on Departures

NC120632 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] While a second batch of Soviet nationals were leaving Beirut, the Soviet Union implicity rejected the U.S. secretary of state's invitation to Moscow to undertake a constructive role in the area and to stand alongside peace in Lebanon.

Yesterday morning, 23 Soviet nationals, including 12 children and 11 women, members of the families of diplomats and employees at the Soviet Embassy, left aboard a special Aeroflot plane.

RFL on Salim's Possible Arab, European Tour

NC111445 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1330 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Informed sources in Beirut have stated that Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim plans to embark in the near future on a quick Arab tour to acquaint the Arab kings and presidents with the official Lebanese stand on the agreement.

The sources said that Minister Salim is also expected to make a European tour after the official signing of the agreement. The tour, which will include France, Britain, Italy, and the Vatican, will be to ask for further support for Lebanon's stand.

The sources also expected Prime Minister al-Wazzan or Foreign Minister Salim to visit Damascus within the next 48 hours to consult with Syrian officials on details of the agreement before initialing it. However, Syria declared its stand in advance today and emphasized its previous warning that a large-scale war will break out if the Lebanese-Israeli agreement is implemented.

Salim to Damascus 12 May

NC112044 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2032 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Our correspondent at the Presidential Palace is in direct contact with us now to inform us of the report on His Excellency President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil's contact with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad this evening.

[Begin recording] President Amin al-Jumayyil contacted by telephone Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad this evening, and a long conversation took place between the two presidents. As a result, it was agreed that Lebanese Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim should visit Damascus tomorrow to inform Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and the Syrian authorities on what has been reached by the negotiations. From the Presidential Palace, Joe Sa'adah. [end recording]

Tunisian Envoy Briefed on Lebanese Stance

NC111028 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 10000 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Foreign and Expatriates Affairs Ministry's Secretary General, Ambassador Fu'ad at-Turk, today met with Tunisian Ambassador to Lebanon Sa'd Bin Mustapha.

Diplomatic sources said the meeting was within the framework of explaining Lebanon's stance regarding the Lebanese-Israeli draft agreement on the Israeli forces' withdrawal from Lebanon.

Shaykhani Says No Religious Problems in Country

NC111211 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Information Minister Roger Shaykhani has affirmed that there are no religious and sectarian problems in Lebanon. He said that during Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil's presidency, Lebanon has

regained its press freedom and position.

Minister Shaykhani was speaking at a party given in honor of NEW YORK TIMES correspondent Thomas Friedman, who won the Pulitzer Prize for his report on the Lebanese war.

Friedman said that he will be happier if he wins another prize on Lebanon's liberation.

Jabal Lubnan Mufti Meets Al-Wazzan 11 May

NC111806 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] At the government palace today, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan met with the mufti of Jabal Lubnan, his eminence Shaykh Muhammad 'Ali al-Juzu; former ministers Nazih al-Bizri and Marwan Hamadah, and former Ambassador Muhammad 'Ali Hamadah. The discussions dealt with the incidents which took place a few days ago in Ash-Shuf and Iqlim al-Kharrub.

The mufti of Jabal Lubnan said that the recent incidents in Iqlim al-Kharrub jeopardize the formula of coexistence among the Lebanese, whereas the fire of the Israeli occupation will burn everybody in the end.

His Eminence Shaykh al-Juzu called on the state to strike with an iron fist at the perpetrators of sedition and the kindlers of its fire so as to reassure the citizens who are wagering on Lebanon's unity and independence under the umbrella of the legitimate authority.

Arab League Envoy Briefed on Developments

NC120847 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] An envoy of the Arab League secretary general, Hammad as-Sid, has visited Foreign Ministry Secretary General Ambassador Fu'ad at-Turk. As-Sid said that the talks dealt with the developments connected with the negotiations with Israel so Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi could be briefed on them.

Apostolic Nuncio Meets Al-Jumayyil, Comments

NC120850 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil has received the apostolic nuncio to Lebanon. Following the meeting, the apostolic nuncio said that the talks dealt with matters concerning Lebanon, the liberation of its territory, and the consolidation of its independence and sovereignty. He said: We want Lebanon to maintain its role in the Arab world and in the area. He said that he will be leaving Saturday for Rome, where he will brief the officials there on the situation in Lebanon.

President al-Jumayyil then received former President Charles Hilu.

AFP Reportage on Security Situation 11-12 May

'Uniformed Soviet Troops' Seen

NC111431 Paris AFP in English 1418 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Beirut, May 11 (AFP) — Both Israel and Syria are continuing a military build-up in the central Lebanese Al-Biqa' valley, but neither newsmen in the area nor political observers here have detected any signs of impending hostilities.

Reports said large numbers of Syrian reinforcements had arrived in various parts of the valley and extensive fortifications were being constructed.

Syria was also reported by the daily newspaper LE REVEIL to have sent some additional troops into the mountains dominating the Lebanese coast north of here.

LE REVEIL said uniformed Soviet troops had been seen for the first time in the mountains and the Al-Biqa'. The Soviet soldiers are usually in civilian clothes.

No unusual reinforcement of Palestinian combatants has been noticed in either area, but U.S. intelligence sources said yesterday that a convoy of 400 Palestinians arrived in Al-Biqa' last week from Syria.

The U.S. ABC television network said there were now 50,000 Syrians and 15,000 Palestinians in Al-Biqa', a doubling of such forces since last August.

Israeli aviation has been unusually active in recent days and there have been significant movements of Israeli soldiers.

However, the Israelis have denied reports of a rise in the number of incidents at the truce line and Palestine Liberation Organization chief Yasir 'Arafat said he thought the chances of a major conflict in Al-Biqa' were remote.

Unidentified Overflights

NC111607 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Unidentified planes have been flying over the 'Uyun as-Siman and Wasat Kasrawan areas since 1650 . Lebanese sources have emphasized that the Lebanese planes are not entrusted with any missions at that time. It is believed the planes are Israeli.

While guarded calm is prevailing on the mountain fronts, the Voice of Lebanon correspondent in Sidon has reported that columns of Israeli tanks stopped by the Ar-Rumaylah beach today and their crews transported earth to an as yet undetermined destination. Meanwhile, Israeli helicopters flew at low altitude over the Maghdushah and Az-Zahrani areas.

Israeli Al-Biqa' Reinforcements
NC120642 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] A report from Sidon indicates that a column of Israeli tanks, personnel carriers, freight vehicles, jeeps, and ambulances has passed through the city toward the Iqlim al-Kharrub area via the 'Alman-Jun-Dayr al-Mukhallis Road.

A report from Al-Biqa' says that about 50 Israeli armored vehicles carried by transporters have arrived in the area. These include armor equipped with mobile military operations rooms, in addition to large freight vehicles carrying ammunition and columns of buses transporting soldiers to the eastern and western Al-Biqa'.

Al-Qir'awn Calm 12 May
NC120649 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] In Al-Qir'awn, the situation is calming down following the demonstration staged the day before yesterday and the confrontation that ensued between the inhabitants and the Israeli forces. The Israeli forces had opened fire on the demonstrators, who hurled stones at the soldiers.

Iddih Denies Report on Support for Al-Asad
NC111909 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Brigadier General Raymond Iddih believes President Hafiz al-Asad is the only guarantee for Lebanon's independence. This was contained in a report by the SANA correspondent in Paris. According to the report, Brigadier General Iddih said: I was against the Syrian forces' presence in Lebanon and I always used to call for these forces' withdrawal. However, after the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and the failure of the U.S. initiative, I believe President Hafiz al-Asad's stand, which opposes thedraft peace between Lebanese and Israel, is an honorable and national stand worthy of respect and appreciation.

The Voice of Lebanon radio correspondent in Paris contacted Brig Gen Raymond Iddih, who denied the entire report.

Beirut Papers Comment on U.S. Role, Draft Accord
NC120815 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 12 May 83

[Press review]

[Excerpt] An editorial in AN-NAHAR affirms that the Lebanese Government has succeeded as a firm but cautious negotiator because it understood the Arab and U.S. changes in Lebanon's interest. It sensed the danger of the continued occupation if a decision were not reached in the negotiations. It was also firm on the question of a peace treaty, thus ensuring the continuity of Lebanese unanimity, which is a condition for affiliating unification with liberation.

Concerning the Shultz mission, AN-NAHAR says that he established that the United States is capable of exercising influence on Israel and of putting strategic U.S. calculations ahead of Israel's direct and short-term calculations.

AL-ANWAR emphasizes the U.S. role, and says: The U.S. Administration regards the battle for the withdrawal from Lebanon as a prelude to its successful war in the area. What Shultz has done so far, according to the British TIMES, is a tactical success requiring a strategic success. The strategic success begins in Lebanon and ends in the area.

On its front page, AL-ANWAR says: There have been quick developments in connection with the Lebanese-Israeli draft agreement for the Israeli forces' withdrawal from Lebanese territory. It appears that during his talks in Israel yesterday, Ambassador Philip Habib settled the clarifications requested by Menahem Begin's government and that the draft agreement is ready for signature.

ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT Interviews Minister Khaddam

PM111405 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 10 May 83 p 4

[Interview with Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam by Faysal Hamid Idris in Jidda on 9 May]

[Text] "Thank God everything is fine." This was Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam's answer to my question: "What was the result?" He had just returned from the Saudi Military Hospital in Jidda, where he underwent some medical examinations.

We climbed to the second floor of the Al-Hamra Palace in Jidda, where this comprehensive interview took place, which for the first time reveals facts regarding the draft Israeli-Lebanese agreement, Reagan's plan for the Middle East, the Syrian attitude toward Iraq, Jordan, the PLO, and the Arab-Israeli conflict in general. The following is the text of the interview with ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT:

[Question] What was the essence of your talks with Saudi officials and how do you evaluate these talks?

[Answer] The Arab world is today witnessing important developments that will affect the future of the area. Most important of these are the developments in the situation in Lebanon, the Israeli aggression against Lebanon, and the current attempts to restrict Lebanon's sovereignty and freedom, all of which directly concern the security and interests of the Arab world. It is natural, in these circumstances, that views be exchanged and that such important matters be discussed between the Saudi Arabian Kingdom and Syria in view of the strong relations between the two fraternal countries and the mutual trust between His Majesty King Fahd and President al-Asad.

The meeting was for the purpose of discussing these issues. It was held in a fraternal atmosphere characterized by a sense of responsibility and common views on the nature of the dangers threatening the Arab nation. We have reached common conclusions and common views that we hope will have positive effects on the interests of Lebanon and the Arab nation.

[Question] The talks certainly dealt with the draft agreement between Lebanon and Israel. What was the outcome of the talks on this subject?

[Answer] This was one of the main questions we discussed. We have basic observations regarding this draft agreement. The first is that it is between two unequal parties; the Israeli enemy is present in the Beirut suburbs and is exerting pressure. I will give an example: At one of the [Lebanese-Israeli] meetings, Tamir, a member of the Israeli delegation, asked the Lebanese delegation to approve a certain reuqest regarding Sa'd Haddad. We were told this by the Lebanese brothers. The Lebanese side turned down this request, whereupon Tamir told them: "If you do not accept, some 300 persons may be killed in the Ash-Shuf area tonight and the response will be the killing of 1,000 people." This, of course, is a kind of threat. The mere fact that Israel occupies Lebanon creates an imbalance between the Lebanese negotiator and the Israeli negotiator.

The second observation is that the draft agreement restricts Lebanon's sovereignty and freedom. First of all, it imposes joint security measures in a Lebanese area in which the Lebanese state, not the Hebrew state, is supposed to be responsible. These measures include banning civilian and military flights over southern Lebanon without Israeli permission.

Therefore Lebanon no longer has absolute sovereignty over its territory. Lebanon, for example, has no right to possess air defense weapons over all Lebanese territory. These are some of the complex issues, but there are two more serious matters:

First, the ending of the state of war. As you know, everything concerning the Arab-Israeli conflict is an Arab responsibility. Why did we oppose Camp David? Because As-Sadat acted unilaterally. We do not think that Lebanon or the Lebanese Government has the right to submit to Israeli pressure and end the state of war, particularly because the conflict is a comprehensive issue. Ending the state of war is contrary to all the Arab decisions and Lebanon's Arab commitments.

The second serious point in the draft agreement is the article that says that the agreement takes precedence over all other agreements Lebanon concludes with the Arab countries, which means suspending all Lebanon's agreements and commitments, whether at the summit conferences, in the Arab League, or in the Joint Defense Pact.

Among other serious matters, there is also the question of Israel's interference in Lebanon's internal affairs. Under the agreement, Sa'd Haddad will assume basic and major responsibilities in southern Lebanon. His troops will become part of the Lebanese Army and the militias under his command will also become part of this army. Imagine an invading aggressor state asking the other [invaded]state to assign a citizen of that state to be a military and political official. This is maximum interference in Lebanon's internal affairs and maximum restriction of Lebanon's sovereignty.

The other question concerns the normalization of relations. The agreement provides for the free movement of goods and individuals between Lebanon and Israel. Naturally, this could pose a danger to the Arab economy and Arab security because Lebanon will become a gateway for Israeli goods, which would constitute a danger to Arab security because scores of espionage networks would be established through this traffic.

For all these reasons we have informed the brothers in Lebanon of our rejection of this agreement and have considered it a capitulation agreement that will cause great harm to Lebanon and the Arab world.

There is another point to be considered, namely the agreement on the independence of Syria and Lebanon. Also, in accordance with Lebanon's Arab League membership, there is a resolution by the Arab League providing that Lebanon should be neither a center nor a channel for aggression threatening the Arab world's security or Syria's security. Therefore the agreement and the

open borders constitute a direct threat to Syria and to the future of the Arab world.

[Question] Do you expect a military confrontation between Syria and Israel following your rejection of the agreement?

[Answer] All the possibilities are there: the Israeli buildup, threats, and practices make aggression likely. But, of course, we will confront the aggression and let the Israelis realize that if they wage a new war, that war will be neither limited nor a picnic. They realize the extent of the heavy losses they will sustain if they resort to military escalation.

[Question] How true are the recent reports of the existence of 5,000 Soviet advisers in Syria?

[Answer] We do in fact have Soviet advisers. They are not new in Syria and this is something natural by virtue of the cooperation between us and the Soviet Union. Any country — not only Syria — dealing with another country and obtaining equipment from it needs, at a certain stage, experts to help in the absorption of such equipment. Yes, we have advisers and they have specific duties, no more and no less.

[Question] A few days ago, Israel threatened to carry out a partial withdrawal toward the south. Do you believe this could lead to the partitioning of Lebanon?

[Answer] Israel is seeking to partition Lebanon whether it withdraws partially or not. Its attempts to undermine the security situation in Lebanon are part of a comprehensive Israeli plan to deepen conflicts and disputes between the sons of the same people. The Israeli plan is not new. If we look back at Israeli history, even before the establishment of Israel, we find that one of their objectives is to fragment the area into statelets. Naturally, Lebanon is based on communal balances and they [the Israelis] will try to exploit this structure in order to serve their plans. But we believe tht in the final analysis the Arab people in Lebanon, with all their communities, will form a strong barrier against the partitioning attempts. There are certain Lebanese elements that are linked to Israel, but in no way do they represent the Lebanese people's aspirations.

[Question] How then, under the present circumstances, do you view the convening of an Arab summit — a seven-man or mini-summit?

[Answer] In principle, we are not against any Arab meeting, whether limited or expanded, but we believe that holding a summit meeting should be preceded by preparations in order to ensure its success. To hold a conference without preparations would lead to its failure, which would have serious consequences for the Arab situation. We believe that the contacts we are carrying out, and the meeting that took place today between King Fahd and President Al-Asad, fall within the framework of the coordination of joint Arab action and the quest for a minimum common basis for such action that will serve the common objectives, whether with regard to Syria, Saudi Arabia, or any Arab country.

[Question] Within the framework of Arab coordination, contacts between you and the PLO have been resumed. Is there a possibility that a summit meeting may take place between Syria and Jordan under present Arab conditions?

[Answer] In fact, there was no disagreement between us and the PLO. You know that the basic issue for Syria is the Palestinian problem. There were disagreements between us and some of our brothers in the PLO but, as you saw at the PNC, they adopted resolutions consistent with our policies. So the door is open for meetings between us and the brothers in the PLO.

With regard to Jordan, of course we wish that relations were in a normal state. But there are certain obstacles, some of which concern the bilateral relations between us and Jordan while others concern the general Arab attitude toward the Arab-Israeli conflict. There can be no doubt that if our brothers in Amman can remove these obstacles, a meeting between the governments or the leaders of the two countries will become not only possible but natural.

[Question] Is the Iran-Iraq war the central cause of disagreement?

[Answer] The disagreement between us and Jordan has nothing to do with the existing disagreement between us and the Iraqi Government. It concerns, as we all know, the harbouring of and support for six members of the Muslim Brotherhood who carried out terrorist actions in Syria. This disagreement existed before the war; we and Jordan certainly never disagreed over Iraq.

[Question] In the event of a military confrontation between you and Israel, how do you think the Joint Defense Pact will be carried out?

[Answer] Naturally, we would like every Arab effort to be devoted to supporting us on the grounds that the conflict between us and Israel is not a Syrian-Israeli conflict. But there is still some distance between hopes and reality. For some time, we have been concentrating our efforts on building Syria's inherent strength and achieving a military balance between Syria and Israel. I would say that, naturally, this balance has not yet been achieved, but we are seeking to achieve it and are confident that the day will come when there will be a balance in favor of the Arab nation.

[Question] The whole world is saying that the Reagan initiative is the last chance for achieving a solution acceptable to all sides. What do you say?

[Answer] That is not correct. The Arab-Israeli conflict is not a matter of opportunities, but of objectives, causes, and results. It is not a question of seizing an opportunity, particularly because what the Reagan plan offers does not fulfill even much less than the minimum requirements. There are fundamental issues which the plan does not touch upon. First of all, the Palestinian question is not merely a question of the West Bank and Gaza inhabitants. It is much wider than that, covering the territories occupied in 1967 and covering the Palestinian refugees, who have been homeless since 1948. The essential part of the Palestinian question has not been tackled [in the Reagan plan].

Second, the Reagan plan dropped the Palestinian people's fundamental and recognized rights to self-determination and to a state like all other people in the world.

So on the Palestinian question, the Reagan plan conflicts with all the Arab resolutions and does not even fulfill a small portion of the Palestinian people's aspirations. Add to this the fact that it is based on Israel's security and interests, and not the security and interests of other states. For example, in one clause it speaks of "securing defensible borders for Israel." Where are these defensible borders? Are they the Palestine borders or borders in Trans-Jordan, Syria, or Iraq, or even in Saudi Arabia?

Another point is that the plan is meant to provide security for Israel, although in the Arab-Israeli conflict it has been proven that Israel is always the aggressor and that the Arabs are the victims of Israeli aggression.

We do not see in Reagan's plan a new opportunity for the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the region. Furthermore, we Arabs met in Fes about 1 month ago [as published] and we adopted an Arab peace plan based on practical and realistic considerations and on the minimum limits acceptable to all the Arabs. Many voices in the world, especially in the West, have welcomed this plan and regard the Fes resolutions to be moderate and positive. So why should we abandon our own plans and accept the plans of others? Of course, some of our Arab brothers who advocate President Reagan's plan are in fact severely undermining the credibility of the Arab decision and position. The world will say: Look at those Arabs, they cannot make up their minds, they adopt decisions and revoke them the following day.

Also, as a matter of principle and due consideration, no Arab official should violate the framework of the Fes resolutions. If any Arab official had certain ideas, why did he not submit them to the summit conference? We now see that some of the Arab officials who were most enthusiastic about the Fes resolutions are now promoting President Reagan's plan. This, I believe, neither serves Arab interests nor becomes us as Arab leaders and officials.

[Question] What does Syria think about combining the Arab and U.S. plans to produce a new plan?

[Answer] Some time ago I was visited by a former U.S. official, Mr Quant, who was an adviser to former President Carter. He asked me the same question. I replied: This is possible when U.S. technology manages to marry a camel to a gazelle and when such a marriage produces a baby. Then we can marry the Reagan plan to the Arab plan.

The truth is that there is a fundamental contradiction between the two. The Fes resolutions stem from a clear concept of the Palestinian question: a Palestinian state, a PLO role, self-determination, the right of repatriation, and withdrawal from the territories occupied in 1967. The main object of President Reagan's plan is to shelve the Palestinian file and find a solution to the inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza through Jordan. There is a basic contradiction. We in the seven-member committee tried to get the U.S. Administration to reconsider but we did not succeed.

[Question] We now talk about Lebanon and the West Bank. Have we forgotten the Golan?

[Answer] We cannot forget the Golan. We do not forget one inch of occupied Arab territory. We talk about the Arab-Israeli conflict comprehensively, not just about the West Bank and Gaza. The Golan to us is just like any inch of Palestine, Sinai, or Lebanon. Syria looks at the conflict as a whole. If Syria had wanted to take a regional view of the conflict it could have easily solved the Golan problem years ago. Naturally, the Golan is a dear and important part of Syria and accordingly, of Arab territory, and it is therefore not subject to bargaining and cannot be forsaken. As I have said, we view the conflict as a whole.

[Question] What are the practical steps for recovering the Golan?

[Answer] As I said, we view the conflict as a whole. We want peace, but not by separate means and partial steps. What is the use of establishing peace between Syria and Israel without establishing peace for the Palestinian people, the Jordanian people, or the Iraqi people? The Israeli ambitions are not confined to Palestine. They extend to the entire Arab homeland. Begin once told one of the American Jews: "I hope the time will soon come when our borders reach Turkey." They do not want just Palestine or the Golan. We, therefore, are striving for a comprehensive peace and are striving to safeguard the national rights of the Arab nation — and that means all the Arab people, whether they are Syrian, Palestinian, or Lebanese.

[Question] History has shown that Arab strength lies in Arab unity of ranks. So is there any hope for a restoration of Syria's relations with Iraq and Jordan, which are also confrontation states?

[Answer] Arab solidarity will undoubtedly remain essential for the protection of the Arab nation's interests and future. The circumstances between us and the Iraqi and Jordanian Governments are known. They are not the result of a Syrian decision or Syrian practices. This matter does not depend on the Syrian position and decision. The circles that adopted certain decisions and engaged in certain practices are the ones responsible or the ones which should make the necessary reconsideration regarding Syria. Arab solidarity has been a cornerstone in our policy ever since November 1970, when President Hafiz al-Asad assumed power and carried out the corrective movement. Since then, we have restored relations with several Arab states with which our relations had been severed. The current consultations between Syria and Saudi Arabia are in the context of Arab solidarity. As I have just said, we discussed all aspects of the situation in Lebanon. The views were identical and the conclusions were the same. We agreed on certain concepts that are definitely in the interest of Lebanon and the Arab nation.

[Question] A cloud appears to have been hanging over Syrian-Iranian relations recently. What is the truth about that?

[Answer] There is no cloud. We believe that the Arabs should try to have good relations with neighboring countries. There are two states adjacent to us in the Arab east: Turkey and Iran. We in Syria, on that principle, have established good relations with both Turkey and Iran. There are no clouds or problems.

[Question] But you have lost a fraternal state, Iraq.

[Answer] Our problem with the Iraqi regime dates back to before the Iraq-Iran war. You know that Iraq concentrated its troops on the Syrian border twice, in 1975 and 1976. You are also aware of the gifts that our brothers in Iraq used to send us in the form of car bombs which exploded in the streets of Syrian towns killing hundreds of Syrian citizens, and also in the form of large quantities of arms and explosives for subversion and destruction in Syria. These things happened before and during the Iraq-Iran war. The dispute between us and our brothers in Baghdad has nothing to do with the Iraq-Iran conflict.

[Question] But the conflict intensified it.

[Answer] It did not intensify it. To go back to the prewar incidents, we all remember that the Iraqi security forces stormed the Syrian Embassy, detained, beat up, and expelled its employees. There is something about Syrian-Iraqi relations which is difficult for the other brothers to understand as the Syrians and Iraqis understand it, something about dispute and reconciliation between us and Iraq. They said so and we say so. There is no third alternative: Either unity or conflict. President Saddam Husayn said so when we met with him on 24 October 1978 during President Al-Asad's visit to Baghdad. There is something special which the Iraqis and the Syrians know very well.

[Question] Why should it not be unity?

[Answer] You also know that we made efforts and achieved a charter of pan-Arab action. Furthermore, at the last Syrian-Iraqi meeting we agreed on a draft constitution for a Syrian-Iraqi federal state, but unfortunately, certain things happened and destroyed this. We consider what happened to be highly detrimental to our aspirations and interests.

[Question] Are you optimistic about the Arab future?

[Answer] Yes, we are optimistic. We believe that the present Arab conditions will not last long. The day is bound to come when the Arab situation will fulfill our aspirations. We must take into consideration the external factors and implications and the part they play in hindering joint Arab action, but we must be optimistic and we must all be aware of the importance of rectifying the Arab course.

'UKAZ Interview

PM121235 Jidda 'UKAZ in Arabic 10 May 83 p 3

[Proceedings of press conference held by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam in Jidda on 9 May]

[Excerpt] [Question] It has been said that Syria has a last card to play in the bargaining process that would enable signing the agreement [on Lebanon] in return for Syria getting the Golan back.

[Answer] Never in its history has Syria been a bargaining country. Syria bases its policies on pan-Arab considerations. In 1970, when Kissinger was negotiating with the Egyptians for the second Sinai agreement, he offered Syria an [Israeli] withdrawal from the Golan if Syria agreed to support Jordanian-Israeli negotiations. We rejected the offer and said that the conflict began in Palestine, and therefore, a settlement and peace must be comprehensive and must begin with Palestine.

[Question] Does Syria object to the U.S. role in the agreement?

[Answer] Our objection rests on the fact that the present U.S. role is quite different from the U.S. commitments made to us during the war. President Reagan sent a message to President Hafiz al-Asad saying that what was needed was a cease-fire and an immediate withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanese territory. What is being suggested now was not on the cards then. Shultz said to me that any agreement reached through the barrel of the gun is not an agreement. Was this agreement not reached at gunpoint or under occupation?

I told Shultz: We agree, let Israel withdraw and Syria and the Palestinians will withdraw from Lebanon. Let us all withdraw unconditionally and let there be a public referendum in Lebanon on the agreement. If 30 percent of the Lebanese people approved the agreement we also would approve. We are confident that when the Israeli occupation ends, at least 95 per cent of the Lebanese people will reject this agreement.

Envoy Vows To 'Abort' Lebanon Agreement

LD111943 Kuwait KUNA in English 1255GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Kuwait, May 11 (KUNA) — The Syrian ambassador in Kuwait, 'Isa Darwish Wendesday declared that his country will abort what he termed as the (security agreement) between Lebanon and Israel with all available means at its disposal.

Syria will lead this confrontation depending on the understanding of Lebanon and that of the other Arab (brothers) of its position, especially after the exchange of views between Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and the Saudi monarch, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and the meeting between President al-Asad and the PLO leader, Yasir 'Arafat," he said.

Darwish told a press conference he called for at the embassy premises today that by taking such a stand, Syria was reflecting the support of the Arab masses, the Arab governments and the world public opinion for Syria.

The Syrian rejection to the agreement was not motivated by any emotional outrage (but a sober decision) resting on an Arab strategy and on a determination to put an end to Zionist invasion which threatens to swallow the Arabs lands, to tighten domination over it from the ocean to the Gulf, he stressed. The ambassador emphasised that the decision (to confront and foil the Lebanese-Israeli withdrawal agreement) was not dictated by a Syrian desire but [manifested the will of the Arab masses].

The Syrian ambassador described the American-sponsored withdrawal agreement between Israel and Lebanon worked out by American Secretary of State George Shultz after a two-week shuttle in the regin as "surrender and subjugation contract"

conflicting with the freedom and independence of Lebanon and threatening the security and interests of Syria and the Arab nation. The security of Syria has become in jeopardy under the terms of the agreement which places Syria and the Arab security in grave danger and constitutes a serious precedent in the international law because it vests occupation and the use of power, the right to impose interests of the powerful nations over the weak and violates United Nations resolutions on Lebanon, he added.

The Syrian ambassador, whose country rejected the agreement the day Shultz visited Damascus and conferred with President al-Asad on it, said Syria views the agreement as "a unilateral peace accord" with Lebanon departing from the Arab summit's resolutions, specially the recent Fes summit.

The agreement further grants Israel recognition and the right to grab Palestine and other occupied Arab territories and yield to the American and Israeli will, he said.

Darwish went on telling the newsmen that the agreement exposes the Syrian security to danger by allowing Israeli surveillance to extend to Dayr al 'Asafir on the Syrian borders, a few kilometers from Damascus. Furthermore, the agreement rewards what he described as "the symbols of dealings with Israel" by forcing the Lebanese authorities to appoint renegade Major Sa'd Haddad responsible for security in southern Lebanon in addition to its violation of all the Security Council resolutions on Lebanon, espcially Resolutions 508 and 509, he said.

The ambassador said the agreement legalises the practical presence of American forces in Lebanon and grants it the right to become an alternate to the United Nations forces and vests Israel with the right to inspect and supervise the region, thus stripping Lebanon of its sovereignty and freedom on a major part of its territory.

Another grave article of the agreement is that it bans any party or group of people or even a benevolent society in Lebanon to extend assistance to any Arab or Palestinian party in Lebanon or outside it on the grounds that activities are hostile to Israel, he revealed.

Although the ambassador reiterated his country's unwavering support for the sovereignty and unity of Lebanon and its willingness to aid the occupied Lebanon in liberation from the Israeli forces, he vehemently dismissed the text of the agreement, which places the Syrian and Palestinian presence — which he said was there with the consent of the Lebanese Government under an Arab resolution and with the blessing of the world's public opinion — equal to that of the Israeli invading forces.

Speaking about the nature of the contemplated confrontation and whether it would aim at "moving" the stalled settlement of the Middle East crisis "or push it in a new direction", the ambassador said Syria never fought a war to move things but always engaged in wars of liberation. The experiment of the Lebanese war taught Syria not to place all means of victory in the hands of the enemy by allowing them to chose the time and place and thus reaching Damascus as they did Beirut, Darwish said.

The ambassador asserted though that "Syria will not be alone if war is imposed on her." There are the Arab masses who always proved that they are above all differences, "and there are the strong friends, the same as Israel has its strong allies." Syria will depend primarily on its Armed Forces and the steadfastness of its people together with the potentialities of its Arab brothers throughout the Arab world, he said, adding that "the Soviet Union will support Syria and will never abandon her under the mercy of the Israeli wolves."

Darwish described the talks between President al-Asad and King Fahd as necessary consultations among brothers adding that the talks covered the Arab future, especially that of Lebanon, Palestine and Syria as envisaged by the withdrawal agreement and its consequences. He did not elaborate on that point.

Asked of the probability of calling for an Arab summit to discuss the agreement, the ambassador said Syria was always ready to confront the Israeli threat to Lebanon and the Arab nation, but, at the same time, welcomes any collective action either eminating from an Arab summit or on bilateral bases fostering this strategy.

The Syrian ambassador concluded by stressing that the withdrawal agreement, which Israel and Lebanon reached on withdrawal of all foreign forces from the country "is an execution document for the Palestinian revolution."

ATH-THAWRAH on Anticipated Offensive on Syria

JN121126 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0825 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] Damascus, 12 May (SANA) — In today's commentary, ATH-THAWRAH says all the signs show that the Zionist enemy is intensifying measures preparatory to launching an offensive against Syria in coordination with the U.S. Administration. The paper stresses that the aggression, in the event it occurs, will not be a picnic; it will detonate a stormy popular uprising that would wreck the all-embracing plot and sweep away it tools.

The paper adds: The United States and Israel wrongly believe that an aggression against Syria would end the impasse, engulfing the policy of plots and aggression. The contrary is true. Syria, which has confidence in itself, in its people, and the Arab nation, and which is backed up by the free, socialist, and progressive forces in the world, is capable of dealing painful blows to the forces of oppression and aggression.

In conclusion, ATH-THAWRAH says that victory belongs to the just Arab cause and to Syria, the maker of Arab decisions and actions.

AL-BA'TH: Syria To Resist Draft Agreement

JN120923 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0810 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] Damascus, 12 May (SANA) — The newspaper AL-BA'TH questions the fate of the projected U.S. plans in the Middle East, stressing that Shultz' draft agreement constitutes the pivotal center of these plans and its collapse would mean the end of U.S. domino policy in the region.

In today's editorial, AL-BA'TH notes that the agreement, whose real dimensions and the fatal dangers inherent in it are being kept secret, goes beyond Lebanon's territory. It is in effect a gateway for reviving the Reagan plan and an artery for pumping life into the Camp David accords.

AL-BA'TH says: It is not so difficult to unveil the real dimensions of this agreement, and its provisions need not be reread to find out that the new occupation of Lebanon is meant to transform Lebanon into a staging base for the upcoming Israeli aggression against Syria and the other Arab countries — a matter that will satisfy some of the Zionist greed on the road to achieving their biblical dreams.

Continuing its editorial, AL-BA'TH says that Shultz' draft agreement was based on many wagers and assumptions, foremost being U.S. free-handed control [at-tafarrud] in the region, which is still continuing; the possibility of isolating Syria and circumventing its position, something which is available under the current Arab deterioration and in most of the Arab regimes' approval of the U.S. capitulatory schemes; and, giving that the door is wide open to create a new status quo in Lebanon, put Syria in a critical situation, and divert the dispute to a Lebanese-Syrian and Lebanese-Palestinian dispute.

The paper asserts that these wagers have so far lost most of their foundations. Syria is not alone in combating the U.S. plan. The pan-Arab interest runs counter to the U.S. plan. Syria represents the very essence of the Arab nation's interests and this was confirmed following the Zionist invasion of Lebanon. It will also be the same after Shultz' draft agreement.

In conclusion, AL-BA'TH says: Syria is not alone against the draft agreement as has been depicted by the misled. The Arab stands that emerged inside and outside Lebanon against Shultz' draft agreement are unequivocal evidence that the plan to isolate Syria is doomed to fail and, consequently, the U.S. plans to impose the Israeli conditions are plans closer to death than to life.

Damascus Contrasts U.S., Syrian Peace Concepts
JN111338 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 11 May 83

[Station Commentary]

[Text] The United States wants to achieve peace in the Middle East. This is what President Reagan, Secretary of State Shultz, and the spokesmen of various official departments of the U.S. Administration are saying. Peace is the wish of all people who seek and want to achieve peace. Syria also seeks and wants peace. It is not a warmonger as President Hafiz al-Asad has often emphasized. Nevertheless, U.S. and Syrian efforts do not converge, although both sides speak about peace.

The fact is, there is a big difference between what the United States and Syria understand from the word peace. What the United States has done with Egypt, what it is trying to make Lebanon accept, and what it is advocating within the Camp David framework and U.S. President Reagan's proposals gives an idea of the peace the United States wants. The United States does not believe that peace requires the unqualified recognition of the principle of the impermissibility of seizing other people's lands by force and the recognition of the Palestinian Arab people's right to self-determination. The United States believes that peace requires submission to the United States first and the acceptance of the Israeli security theory, which means that Israel's security borders must ignore all international laws, encroach on other peoples' borders, and penetrate into their territories without any restrictions.

The United States is exerting dual pressure to enforce its concept of peace. The first pressure comes through Israel's aggressions and invasion, as well as through the arsenal of weapons the United States has placed at the disposal of Israel to insure its military superiority over all the Arab states. The second pressure is the one the United States is exerting on the various Arab sides to attract them to the table of capitulatory negotiations on the pretext that the Arabs have to agree to one of two options: seize the alleged opportunity made available by the U.S. proposals, or remain under Israeli occupation and the pressure of the Israeli war machine, which continues to penetrate Arab lands.

Syria believes that the U.S. peace concept conflicts with the concept of a just peace in which the peoples of the world believe and about which recognized international laws and pacts speak. U.S. peace is rejected, because it means surrendering to the aggressor and giving gains and booty to the invaders, aggressors, and outlaws. It is the peace of complete submission to the aggressors, invaders, and the covetous as well as the concession of recognized basic and natural rights.

Syria wants real just peace. It is seeking and advocating this peace. Syria wants peace that respects the principles of the UN Charter, which recognize peoples'right to self-determination, honorsand guarantees this right, prohibits the seizure of other peoples' lands by force, and bans invasion and the use of armed force in international relations. This is the peace Syria wants. It is the peace that the United States and Israel do not want. The peace that the United States is talking about is the surrender of the Arabs to Israel; the surrender of the aggrieved parties to the aggressors — hence, the big difference between the Syrian and U.S. positions.

Regardless of the pressure the United States is using on Syria and other Arabs, Syria will not accept surrender, submission to the United States, or retreat before Israel. If there are hints these days about an Israeli aggression against Syria, these hints will not scare Syria, make it accept the U.S. proposals, or remain silent about the U.S. plots taking place around it. The full responsibility for the consequences of any U.S.-backed Israeli aggression will fall squarely on the United States and the Israeli rulers. Syria, which does not belittle anyone's strength, will defend itself with competence and determination. Syria is confident of victory, because as President Hafiz al-Asad said, it marches with history, the rules of life, and peoples' interests. Furthermore, Syria is confident of its intrinsic power and the support of the masses of its nation, friends, and allies in the world.

Palestine Broadcast Cites APN on Lebanon Accord
JN112042 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 11 May 83

[Palestine Broadcast: From "On the Events" program]

[Text] In Moscow, APN said that by its support of Israel's expansionist policy, its brazen denial of the national rights of the Palestinian people, and its blatant stand among the enemies of the Arabs, the U.S. Administration is endeavoring to drag the Arab countries into the circle of influence of neo-colonialism and to impose on them capitulatory conditions for a settlement that would transform this region into a protectorate for U.S. imperialism.

APN added: The U.S. Administration's hostile policy is manifested in the Reagan plan, which is an appropriate successor to the Camp David agreement, and aims to drag the Arabs into a new round of separate negotiations, kill the Palestinian cause, and force the Arabs to admit that Israel's occupation of Arab territories is legitimate.

Al-Asad Receives GDR Defense Minister 11 May
Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] At 1130 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received GDR Defense Minister Army General Heinz Hoffmann. The meeting was attended by General Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief of the Syrian Army and Armed Forces and defense minister; and General Kessler, GDR deputy minister of national defense.

General Hoffmann conveyed to the president the greetings of Erich Honecker, chairman of the GDR Council of State and secretary general of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany. The president received these greetings with thanks and requested the GDR defense minister to convey similar greetings.

GDR Military Delegation Departs
JN121110 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1015 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] GDR Defense Minister Army General Heinz Hoffmann and the accompanying military delegation left Damascus this morning after a visit of several days. General Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief of the Army and Armed Forces and defense minister, led those who saw the GDR delegation off at the airport.

Raymond Iddih Hails Al-Asad's Stand on Lebanon
JN111600 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Paris — Raymond Iddih, the Lebanese National Bloc leader, has said that President Hafiz al-Asad's position on Shultz' plan, which is called the peace plan between Lebanon and the Zionist entity, is an honorable, national position that must be respected and appreciated.

In a telephone contact with the SANA correspondent in Paris, Iddih said that this position is the first responsible Arab reaction so far. He added: I feel that the only guarantee for Lebanon's independence is President Hafiz al-Asad.

More on Official Reaction to Agreement Proposal

Signing Expected Soon

TA121015 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] Contradictory reports are coming from Beirut and Jerusalem about the conclusion of the negotiations between Israel and Lebanon and the signing of the agreement.

Sources in Beirut reported a short time ago that the signing ceremonies would be on Monday, 16 May, in Khaldah and Netanya. The Voice of Lebanon radio station also reported that the delegations of Israel, Lebanon, and the United States would meet in Netanya tomorrow to exchange among themselves the final drafts of the agreement. However, our correspondent Amnon Nadav was told in Jerusalem that people there are still waiting for U.S. envoy Philip Habib who is to return to Israel at about noon, and will bring with him from Beirut the explanations requested by Israel.

Our correspondent was told that the Israeli negotiators want to hear clear explanations from firsthand sources, and not permit the creation of faits accomplis in the final agreement before Israel gives its official approval. Only if it turns out that the explanations do indeed satisfy Israel, people in Jerusalem said, would the teams from Lebanon, Israel, and the United States meet tomorrow in Netanya for conclusions, and perhaps meet on Sunday, 15 May, to sign the agreement in both Khaldah and Netanya.

Knesset Majority Favors Accord

TA111236 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 11 May 83

[Excerpt] The Knesset will resume on Monday the discussion about the government's statement concerning the agreement with Lebanon and it appears that most of the members of the Knesset will support the agreement.

Our correspondent Amnon Nadav has learned that the Alignment's MAPAM faction, which contains seven Knesset members, decided 2 days ago to abstain. Most of the Labor Party Knesset members also support abstaining, though no decision has been made yet.

Knesset Debate Begins

TA111620 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 11 May 83

[Excerpts] Only four speakers addressed the Knesset plenum today in a session that lasted nearly 2 hours. The debate will resume next Monday. Here is a report form the Knesset plenum by Gil'ad Mishori:

[Begin recording] [Mishori] Peres was followed by Chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee Eliyahu Ben-Elisar. He condemned the repeated mention of the sacrifices, and contended that the current situation is totally different from the situation prior to the war. He told the northern settlers: You have nothing to fear.

[Ben-Elisar] I am sorry to have to say that I did not exactly understand what the Alignment's position will be once the agreement is put to the Knesset vote. However, let me say the following, which I feel obligated to say: To the best of my understanding, anyone who votes against this agreement would actually be voting against the return of our boys from Lebanon.

[Mishori] Deputy Foreign Minister Yehuda Ben-Me'ir said: Anyone who maintains that this agreement is no different from the armistice agreement is saying something which has absolutely no relation to the truth.

[Ben-Me'ir] We reached an agreement which is incomplete. It does not include everything we wanted or demanded [tava'nu], but to the best of my knowledge and according to my sincere belief it is a good agreement for Israel — an agreement which, if implemented and carried out, will bring prime political and security achievements to Israel.

[Mishori] The last speaker today was HADASH MK Me'ir Wilner, who maintained that the government's use of the term "Lebanon's sovereignty" was cynical, and that there is no intention of restoring full sovereignty to Lebanon.

[Wilner] It has no intention whatsoever to leave southern Lebanon. There is, however, an attempt on the part of the Reagan administration and the Begin government to blackmail Lebanon, Syria, and the PLO on the basis of the conquest. The intention is to impose a military diktat by virtue of military conquest, and Syria is being provocatively told: This is what you should see and emulate. We agreed, and you will sign it. No change is acceptable. Obviously this tone is employed. They do not want any solution.

[Mishor] Only five [as heard] speakers were heard today. Eight hours were allocated to the debate, which has not aroused too much interest, and so dozens of additional Knesset members will most probably speak next Monday. [end recording]

Shamir on Lebanon Situation

DW111109 Bonn DIE WELT in German 11-12 May 83 pp 1, 10

[Report on interview with Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by correspondent Juergen Liminski in Tel Aviv; date not given]

[Text] In the view of Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Sahmir, the position of the Soviet Union, which is in alliance with Syria, is "the great unknown factor" in current efforts to achieve an agreement with Lebanon. Shamir commented on this problem the same day Moscow was speaking of a "policy of dictate with regard to Lebanon."

Shamir: Nobody knows exactly "what the Soviets are up to Lebanon, and whether or not they advocate the withdrawal of the Syrians." It lies in the Soviets' interests to participate in

comprehensive negotiations." However, I see no possibility of any of the possible partners accepting the Russians; neither the United States nor we want that. Moscow's current extremely hostile attitude toward Israel is also known," Shamir said.

The Israeli politician considers the Israeli-Lebanese agreement to be "considerable progress" toward further understanding of and clarity in the positions in the Mideast. "What was known for a long time is now obvious. Whoever wants military solutions in this region turns to the Soviet Union. The Soviets can offer only weapons. However, whoever looks for peaceful solution turns to the United States." This does not mean, however, that "so-called moderate states which also have relations with Washington do not intend to destroy us. The divisions in the region according to this scheme are now becoming clearer."

In Israel, Shamir is considered the "father" of the agreement. The negotiations with the Lebanese and U.S. Secretary of State Shultz were held at his ministry. The details were also worked out there. He is restrained in commenting on Syrian intentions to leave Lebanon: "We have no direct contacts with Syria. Shultz told us that Syria sharply condemned the agreement without commenting on the withdrawal of its own troops. The Americans believethat after long and difficult negotiations, and as a result of Saudi influence, the Syrians will eventually withdraw. However, they cannot provide a date either. Withdrawal must result from Lebanese- Syrian negotiations. We told the Americans that we will not change anything in the current agreement. We will not open the package any more. If the Syrians do not withdraw, we will also remain in Lebanon."

There are several "maneuvering possibilities" Israel can use to remain in Lebanon. Shamir does not rule out partial withdrawal to a line behind a 45-km border strip. "We prefer the complete withdrawal of all foreign troops from Lebanon. That would be the best for Lebanon, for us, and for the entire region."

Shamir categorically rejects any idea that the Golan Heights should be included in negotiations on the withdrawal of the Syrians from Lebanon. "The Golan Heights have nothing to do with the Lebanon problem. The Golan Heights are an integral part of Israeli territory."

Shamir said that Jerusalem is familiar with the American approach as expressed in President Reagan's recent letter to Syrian President al-Asad. Shamir views the U.S. approach as follows:

"The Americans do not say what should become of the Golan Heights. They only maintain — and they have said this repeatedly — that this problem should be solved through negotiations. However, we do not consider this program to be topical, and the United States knows our stand on this problem very well. The United States knows that every attempt to negotiate on this problem would fail." In the words of Shamir, Israeli-American relations "have been constantly improving lately. Our interests are identical to a great degree. During the negotiations on the [Lebanon] agreement, the Americans reassessed the role of the PLO in the region.

Peace cannot be achieved through the PLO's participation in negotiations, or through the advice of the Arab League. Washington understands our position better now. We must get back to Camp David. The Lebanese-Israeli agreement is a good step in the direction marked by Camp David."

In Jerusalem, Shultz expressed the assurance that the Reagan plan "does not contradict Camp David, and the Americans will not abandon this plan just like that. However, the experience of Lebanese-Israeli negotiations has taught the Americans that it is better to consult Israel prior to announcing a plan."

In this connection, Shamir also sees an improvement in Israeli-Egyptian relations. However, one can speak today only of a "cold and formal peace without real normalization." According to recent statements from Cairo, the Egyptian ambassador will return again to Tel Aviv "as soon as the Israeli-Lebanese agreement has been signed."

The agreement should also "bring influence to bear" on the Europeans Middle East policy. According to Shamir, "some European states should now improve their relations with us. It was an aspersion to maintain that Israel does not want to leave Lebanon; that it wants to delay negotiations so as to strengthen and expand its presence in the neighboring country, or that it even wants to sabotage the Reagan initiative. That was and is an absurd idea.

Some Europeans must now realize that their judgement was wrong." It can be heard from people close to Shamir that as a result, Israel now actually expects the Europeans to exert diplomatic pressure on Syria to help achieve a breakthrough for peace in Lebanon and the Middle East.

Peres Details Opposition

TA111130 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0923 GMT 11 May 83

[Speech by Opposition leader MK Shim'on Peres in the Knesset on 11 May — live]

[Text] Mr Speaker, honorable Knesset:

On the 16th anniversary of the unification of Jerusalem, we send a sincere greeting to this large and magnificent city, the capital of Israel, the heart of the Jewish people — a greeting that it should continue to grow and become stronger under the leadership of one of our people's greatest builders of this generation, Teddy Kollek. Declarations will not determine Jerusalem's fate — the members of the Cabinet itself have already abandoned some of their declarations — but rather the people's deeds and the country's priorities. We must always behold not only that which has been achieved, but what is needed. And the building of Jerusalem obligizes and demands of us much more than what has been done until now.

Mr Knesset speaker, last Friday the Israeli Government informed the U.S. secretary of state, even before it informed the Knesset or the Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, that it had decided to accept in principle the results of the negotiations with Lebanon, as they were concluded during the U.S. secretary

of state's shuttle mission. Even before the Israeli Government released its official statement, Cabinet members were interviewed on television. Some of them were contrite, claiming that if they had known from the outset that these would be the results of the war, it was doubtful whether they would have supported it. Some of them made do with expressions of sorrow, hiding the regret. One minister — not just a minister, but who on the Cabinet's behalf had been responsible for initiating and conducting the war, and who told an Italian journalist: "I have achieved in Lebanon all that I wanted" — told the Jewish people and the State of Israel that the agreement does not ensure the security of northern Israel.

The foreign minister appeared on television that same evening and hailed the agreement. The defense minister appeared twice: One time he said that this was the maximum the government was capable of achieving — I praise his intellectual honesty — and the second time, when he appeared at a Likud faction meeting, he contemplated out loud the most gloomy thoughts. What, he asked, will happen if Syria and the PLO do not accept the agreement? The picture looks dark: There will be a war of attrition on lines we have not become accustomed to. So said the defense minister.

The minister without portfolio who came from America, returned to America — I assume on a state mission — and there, at a news conference and in fiery speeches in synagogues he explained to the American people and to U.S. Jewry that this was indeed an agreement that did not ensure the security of northern Israel.

All this was done publicly. However, the representatives of the government claim that in one place — the Knesset — it is forbidden to have a discussion on this as it is not a state issue. On television yes, in synagogues yes, in America yes, in news conferences yes, — but in this house, it is not a state affair that should be discussed. Why?

The time has come that you too — young man in the Knesset — learn that the first commitment is to the Knesset; not the television, but before the elected representatives of the people, and not chance groups of congregants at meetings in New York, not before the representatives of the U.S. press. This supreme and honorable institution — this house — which is, in fact, the key to Israeli democracy, must not be slighted.

Mr Speaker, Knesset members: IDF soldiers have been deployed in the mountains and valleys of Lebanon for 335 days now, in the recesses of its society and its factions, and exposed to hit-and-run terrorist actions which are hard to prevent or react to. Up until the moment a solution is found to the problems that have been created so that they can go back home, these soldiers will have to bear this strain.

I would like to ask the Cabinet members: Did any one of you seriously and sincerely, in all honesty, predict such a situation? Did any of you anticipate in advance such a war? Did any one of you estimate the heavy price in victims and sacrifices? Did any one of you make timely plans for the possible outcome? And is there any one among you, of those who made these awful decisions, who are prepared to shoulder the responsibility for the heavy price and the modest results of the war? This war began as a campaign, got messed up and evolved into a war, was carried out in the form of attrition, and has not yet concluded except with heavy political and security question marks hanging over it. Who will answer to the nation and to our historic truth for this? This was a war which the prime minister described as a war in which there was another choice, and which has — according to the ministers' remarks — ended as a mandatory war.

In the course of 11 months of war, we experienced four stages: The first, the shortest, and the only one founded on any sort of strategy was one in which there was a quasi national consensus. It lasted no more than 3 days of the 335 days that passed. That stage was called the Peace for Galilee Operation, and it began on Sunday, 6 June 1982 at 1100 a.m. It ended, in effect, on Tuesday, 9 June [as heard] in the evening, once the IDF reached the objective of the operation — namely the 40-km line north of Israel and south of the Syrian forces — because judging by the statements made by the prime minister and the defense minister, we had no intention at all to clash with the Syrians or harass them.

The prime minister promised this house a day before that that if we reached the 40-km line, this would be considered to mean that the job was done. He added that all belligerence and fighting — not only the war, but any sort of fighting — would cease. In that very speech, the prime minister also summed up our losses up to that point: [figure indistinct] dead, 7 missing, 96 injured. The job was really done by the IDF, but the order to cease fighting was not given.

As though by the wave of a magic wand, the Peace for Galilee Operation became the Lebanon war. This is where the second stage began, and it is an unclear, foggy stage that lasted 60 days and cost us heavy casualties. Since the prime minister summed up the first stage of the casualties, it would be fitting that we sum up the second stage, too: 368 dead, 2,383 injured. That stage was accompanied by the heavy bombing from the air, shelling from land and sea, and the efforts of the IDF — in which I believe and trust — not to harm innocent civilians. Notwithstanding, quite a few civilians were hit, and Israel's good name and international standing were blemished. This ended in the invasion by the IDF — for the first time in our history — of the heart of an Arab capital.

This war, which was not predicted, planned, declared, or brought for any substantial approval to the Knesset and its institutions, was nonetheless carried out. Perhaps as a result, there came resounding declarations which we cannot believe if we hear them today, in the form of: "So the land had rest forty years;" statements along the lines of: "The people have overcome the trauma of the Yom Kippur war;" and declarations like: "'Arafat is trying to be smart, but it will not take long before we will eliminate him." Such proclamations as: "We have destroyed the Soviet reputation;" or: "Israel gave the United States a free Lebanon;" and "By the end of the year we will have signed a peace treaty with Lebanon, and we will have a tripartite peace package, including Lebanon, Egypt, and Israel;" or "A new political order [hesder] in Lebanon, which will be based on the liberation of Lebanon from the pressures of Syria and the PLO;" and many more from the abyss of euphoria, its flowers and exaggerations.

Perhaps if the Cabinet had truly made do with what it had promised the Knesset at the first stage of the Peace for Galilee operation, our soldiers would have already been home long ago, and the 40-km security strip would have already been dotted with men from Haddad's forces and under his command, perhaps also with multinational forces. It is doubtful whether the Soviets would have settled in such massive strength on Syrian soil. It is questionable whether the Americans would have had to pressure us to satisfy ourselves with what was described as the lesser of the two evils, and the people — our people — would not have been experiencing such gnawing doubts and skepticism regarding the war and its cost.

However, as the operation turned into war, in parallel things overturned as well. The expected and desired peace emerged as having been founded on one man whose life we could not protect: Bashir al-Jumayyil. So he left the scene. Our losses on Lebanese soil surpassed those we suffered from Lebanon throughout the 35 years of the state's existence. The Soviet reputation which was allegedly harmed was rehabilitated quickly, and presented us with technological problems resulting from new missiles as well as strategic problems stemming from the presence of 5,000 Soviet Army soldiers on Syrian soil.

Hundreds of terrorists have returned to Beirut, and a similar number penetrated southern Lebanon. There were already a number of attempted terrorist acts in the northern part of the country which, fortunately, were prevented in time. The gift we gave the United States aroused questions both there, directed inwardly, and with regard to us. The so-called liberation of Lebanon from the pressure of Syria and the PLO was found to be a total illusion. Besides, the trauma of the Yom Kippur war was now compounded by the concern and worry of fathers and mothers for the fate of their sons on the land of Lebanon, broken and shattered as it is.

What evolved to be a war without strategy was found to be a stinging development, without anyone to shoulder that responsibility, without a guiding hand. The spirit of gloom, and sometimes even an atmosphere of regret, indeed emanates from the Cabinet's ranks. Yet the true conclusion, the one necessitated by ministerial responsibility, is not there. It is absent.

In early October 1982, we somehow reached a cease-fire, which was more formal than effective. As a result of that cease-fire, the third stage was to have begun, and that was to have been negotiations for peace and security. These negotiations lasted more than 7 months, while the IDF continued to remain deployed in the various sectors of Lebanon, including some in which we have no interest in remaining, involved in developments and events it never triggered, and which it is incapable of forgetting. The IDF was prone to attacks from ambush, and during that period, another 114 of our soldiers and commanders fell, and an additional 309 commanders and soldiers were injured. This is in addition to the eight prisoners held by the Syrians.

The negotiations were very bizarre. They were not conducted with the enemy against whom we fought, but with a country that never fought against us, and which we were not at all interested — or are currently interested — in fighting; a country whose land fell prey to Syrian conquest and a PLO takeover, and which had and has no power to overcome either the Syrians or the PLO, and who knows whether it ever will have that power. Along with the just efforts to reach arrangements that would lift the burden of the safety of Israel in the northern part of the country, the Cabinet tried — and, Mr Foreign Minister, I read your remarks — in those negotiations to reach achievements whose entire advantage lies in the fact that they could conceivably be presented to the Israeli public in ravishing, alluring lights.

In fact, it was as a result of your attempt to reach impressive achievements, so to speak, that the negotiations were prolonged; delayed over formulations whose value is more declarative than substantive. Thus, for instance, precious time — weeks — were wasted on subjects such as the venue of the negotiations, or the level of the negotiators, grandiose and captivating texts of peace substitutes, and the first buds of normalization.

One would have thought that our agreements with Egypt over normalization had really led to the normalization the prophets had promised. [sentence as heard] Yet the principle questions — the true questions on the matter of security, such as the early-warning stations, the deployment of Haddad's forces, and recognition of the status of Major Haddad, he being a Lebanese patriot and an undaunted fighter — all these were pushed aside, postponed to the last stages of the negotiations by virtue of pressure, and at a pace that were not created by us.

This is where the fourth stage began, and it is the shortest one, the rather surprising one, and the one that generated quite a bit of frustration, conducted and directed under the baton of U.S. Secretary of State Shultz. The stage of the completion of the negotiations was conducted very speedily, and proved that it is impossible to reap from it anything beyond what we had expected. The negotiations were completed without peace with Lebanon, because Lebanon is incapable of offering peace. They ended without an arrangement with Syria, its supporter or lackeys, because Syria decided to have the last word. They concluded with a draft agreement which Lebanon argues is actually no different from the 1949 armistice agreements, while Israel contends that this is the lesser of two evils, or as one says in such cases, c'est la vie. What can one do?

Indeed, the draft agreement is not much different from the armistice agreements. It includes some clauses that are an improvement on the armistice agreements, but it likewise includes some clauses that are worse than those in the armistice agreements. The crowning glory of the agreement was to have been the termination of the state of war. What kind of state of war are you talking about? Were we ever in a state of war with Lebanon? That was only a theoretical state of war. Lebanon never participated in any of the five wars waged against Israel. What truly cast a shadow over Israeli-Lebanese relations was not the state of war with Lebanon, but the state of weakness in Lebanon. The weakness that characterized Lebanon on the eve of the war did not end, even after the negotiations you conducted.

Mr Speaker, anyone who hears the criticism voiced by the former defense minister — the architect of the war, and currently a minister without portfolio in the Cabinet — comprehends that Minister Ari'el Sharon's main argument is that in the security sphere you have made terrible compromises. That is his criticism;

it is not mine.

We have been left without the early-warning stations, without Major Haddad, and without the guarantee that the terrorists will not resume operating in and from Lebanon. They have already returned and are already operating there. Besides, there is absolute dependence on the Syrian positiion and the behavior of the PLO. The Cabinet that listened to Sharon with such great enthusiasm in everything that had to do with the beginning of the war and the way to conduct it, is now shedding any responsibility for him, although it does not wish to reprimand him publicly. Indeed, the question arises whether the situation created now is better or worse than the one prevailing before the war began.

Knesset members: Before the war there were certain red lines with Syria, and the incumbent Cabinet indirectly agreed to have a cease-fire with the PLO, Haddad's forces were reinforced, Israel maintained a liaison office — albeit informal — in the Beirut area, and the good fence was set up along the border. That fence may have gone beyond the norm, but it nonetheless resulted in greater normalization than the present agreement, and added good marks to Israel's credit.

I admit that the terrorists have been removed from Beirut. They were removed from places we knew in the Beirut environs, but they began to infiltrate into Beirut once again, this time, however, without distinct addresses. In fact, there are currently terrorist concentrations in five sectors in Lebanon: The Al-Biqa', Tripoli, Beirut, southern Lebanon, and in the Ansar camp, where 5,200 terrorists undergo basic school training and indoctrination of PLO views and its abominable ways.

It is true that the U.S. status in Lebanon has been strengthened, but the status of the Soviet Union has likewise been strengthened in Syria and the Middle East. It is doubtful whether as a consequence of this double-edged reinforcement, Israel stands to gain greater freedom of action and maneuvering, or suffered a loss thereof. Syria has sabotaged the entry of Jordan into the negotiations, and has turned the clock backwards on Egyptian-Israeli ties.

Knesset members: The government that failed in conducting the war in Lebanon has also failed in conducting the negotiations on the results of that war. It sounds ironic when one says that this is the first war that has ended in political negotiations. Is that really so?

The fact of the matter is that this is the first war that was waged against one enemy, and which is supposed to be concluded in an agreement with a country that was not our enemy, and moreover it is being concluded without having an end, because everyone knows that those who can determine the length of the war have not uttered their last word. If the agreement were binding on Syria and the PLO, if peace along Israel's northern part had been guaranteed, and if the return of our soldiers home had been achieved, we would have supported this incomplete agreement. Yet, what actually happened is that we granted Syria the right to veto, without a firm date, since the Syrians have the power to opt for either of the following three alternatives: To agree to withdraw, as per the conditions worked out between us and Lebanon — and I doubt very much that they will do this; they can decide to refuse and not withdraw; or they can also decide not to answer in the affirmative and yet not respond in the negative, and leave us suspended in midair, with no binding date or any other understanding.

I ask myself what can be done in this sorry situation that has been created. Up until now, we have avoided suggesting an interim withdrawal [pinuy beynayim] of our forces, because we wanted to grant the United States and Lebanon bargaining power in their contacts with Syria and the PLO over the total evacuation of Lebanese soil, and allow Lebanon to regain its sovereignty and full independence. Upon signing this agreement with Lebanon, the point of this argument is lost. So now we all have a poignant choice: to decide at once what Israel is doing, or to wait until the Syrians decide what Israel ought to do.

Therefore we propose doing the main thing, — one of the main things the negotiators have neglected: Set up a timetable for the Syrians, and draw up a deployment map for the IDF units in Lebanon. We must inform Lebanon and the United States that if, for example, by 6 June, when this war marks its first anniversary, Syria fails to announce its readiness to withdraw from Lebanon, there will no longer be any point in leaving the IDF anywhere but in the 40 or 50-km security zone which is in our interest.

The defense minister described to us — not to us, but just to Likud members: I do not know why you said this just to Likud members and not in the Knesset — that is the right place to say that — described to us the dangers inherent in this unilateral deployment. However, the problem is that a war or a war of attrition, as the defense minister calls it, is possible along lines that are undefined and dangerous. I agree with him, but what is the alternative?

To conduct a war of attrition along longer lines — less defined, more complicated ones — or to wait without a set date, without end, until the Syrians determine our schedule and their deployment line? And every day we will listen to the radio: Al-Asad says yes, Al-Asad says no; Al-Asad went to Saudi Arabia, Al-Asad returned from Saudi Arabia. Even that deployment of the IDF — [Peres addresses a heckler] — I will tell you women Knesset members — the question is not who introduced the Syrians into Lebanon, but who introduced the IDF into the Ash-Shuf hills. Even that IDF deployment in southern Lebanon must be of a temporary nature. We must announce that that deployment will ultimately and in the future be based on Haddad's forces and a multinational force from the relevant countries that agree to it. That will be a less formal deployment, but less of an IDF deployment, one that will ensure the optimum possible for Israel's security and the early return home of the IDF.

After all, we did not come to annex Lebanon or parts of it. We did not come to infringe on Lebanon's sovereignty, or a bit of it. Maj Haddad raised the flag of free Lebanon when some of those who now want to dismiss him surrendered to the Syrian occupation and the PLO pressure, and now they are also judging Maj Haddad. We have an interest in the Lebanonization of southern Lebanon, on the condition that northern Israel's security is ensured.

Mr Speaker, Knesset members: The Alignment will not support the propagating of further delusions and creating long delays; delusions and delays that involve risk to the lives of IDF soldiers on Lebanese territory, while ignoring the reality that has been created, that you have created, and which is difficult to repair.

In contrast, the Alignment will not support an agreement that leaves the IDF without a departure date from Lebanese territory. It will support an agreement if it indeed emerges that Syria and the PLO are no longer delaying their positive response, which would spell the withdrawal of the IDF. We would not oppose such an agreement. The Alignment will not lend its hand to foiling a chance to end the war, and return the IDF home, and of possible security, although far from being full or effective, for northern Israel. The Alignment will support an honest proposal that will provide security to the north of Israel, that will make possible the return of our sons home, and all this within a clearly spelled out timetable which will be as soon as possible.

Knesset members: The war began without a fixed strategy. Negotiations were conducted with a partner that had no say, while with those that do count there was not even a touch of negotiations, and does not seem to be even the dim image of an agreement. The negotiations and the war that created new problems cannot bring us farther from the starting point marked before the war without (?correcting) or finding solace [as heard] in the heavy price, and dangers that did not previously exist now jeopardize Israel's safety.

Today, what we — Knesset members — can do in all earnestness is to shorten the risk, lower the level of dangers to the IDF, concentrate not on declarations or stories, but on the main thing, which is security for the north of Israel; and bringing the IDF back home.

IDF Reported on 'Moderate' Alert in Lebanon

TA120913 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 12 May 83 pp 1, 15

[Report by Ya'aqov Erez, 'Oded Granot, and Ilan Kfir]

[Excerpt] Tension has risen in the last 24 hours in the front areas in Lebanon in the wake of various measures adopted by the Syrians with the aim of increasing the pressure on the Lebanese Government.

Authoritative Israeli sources this morning said that the extended actions taken by the Syrians, including the reinforcement of their troops in Al-Biqa' and the mountain area, have led to a rise in tension. IDF units in the area have been put on alert. The terrorists in the various areas in Lebanon intend to expend their activities against the IDF troops in the region.

The IDF units are taking their alertness measures in a controlled and moderate fashion in order to prevent an unnecessary exacerbation of the tension Syria has been seeking to initiate. In spite of this tendency, one cannot ignore the military measures taken, and this is the reason for the rise in the tension.

Defense Minister Moshe Arens this week conferred with IDF officers and other elements regarding the policy adopted in Lebanon. During the debate, relations between the IDF and the various factions in Lebanon were reviewed. The defense minister issued instructions to take every possible means to keep from getting involved in the fighting between Christians and Druze, as well as from supporting either of the sides during clashes, since the purpose of the Israeli forces is to maintain calm and security in the region.

Al-Biqa' Called 'Tense'

TA111817 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] The IDF commander of the Beirut area, Brigadier General Amnon Lipkin, said that the situation in the Al-Biqa' is tense, and the IDF and Syrian forces are very close to each other.

At a news conference in Al-Yarzah, he said that the tension exists because many tanks are present, together with the large forces. However, according to him, besides the tension there is no deterioration of the situation.

POST Analyzes Growing Tension With Syria

TA110725 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 11 May 83 p 1

[Report by Hirsh Goodman]

[Text] Recent inter-communal fighting in Lebanon and the apparent increase in tension along the front with Syria are part of a predictable process, defence experts said yesterday. They say the Syrians have in fact started a negotiating process to try and achieve the best possible terms in return for their agreeing to withdraw.

To achieve this end, these experts feel, the Syrians, together with the Soviet Union, are employing "psychological pressure" on Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil's government to extract the best terms possible. "We just have to remain calm and sit this through," they said.

Defence sources said the chances of war between the two countries "are about the same as they were two weeks ago, two months ago, and even two years ago." There have been no radical changes in the deployment of either force in the Al-Biqa', according to the sources, and military movements there have been "normal and unspectacular." They confirmed that the terrorists have moved more men into Lebanon from Syria, but again said that these movements were not unusual.

"They come and go all the time, but people tend to take more notice of them now, given the public climate of tension following Israel's agreement to pullback terms," the source said.

The essence of these remarks was confirmed by the Defence Ministry spokesman, who said last night that he could point to nothing irregular. Sources also tended to downplay the importance of the Soviet Union's apparent decision to withdraw non-essential embassy staff from Beirut.

"They withdrew their families from Damascus last year when Muslim brotherhood activity reached a peak, and we have not yet seen any indication that they have done the same in either Jordan or Syria," THE POST was told.

Nevertheless, the IDF is making all necessary provisions for any eventuality, the source said. He denied that this meant that Israel had bolstered its forces in any significant way, but just that the IDF has "taken necessary precautions."

New Policy Adopted Toward Factions in Lebanon

TA120925 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 12 May 83 p 1

[Report by Military correspondent Ze'ev Schiff]

[Text] Israel has no more military commitments toward one of the factions in Lebanon — including the Phalangists — than toward any other faction in that country. The new line adopted by Israel is to promote contacts and channels of influence with each of the factions and groups, without intervening against any one of them. This line has been formulated in the last few weeks through Defense Minister Moshe Arens' prodding. Lengthy debates have been held in this context with the participation of military and security officials and other experts.

Israel has in the past adopted a clear-cut position in favor of the Christians in which the Phalangists were given preference. This relation involved a military commitment and an obligation not only against the Palestinians, but also against the Syrians and the Lebanese elements supported by Syria. Since relations between Israel and the Lebanese Government, which includes Christian groups, began deteriorating, a new policy began emerging on this issue. This policy stipulates that relations should be promoted with any group and faction ready to maintain contacts with Israel, and thus retain its influence over larger parts of the Lebanese population.

Israel is at present — and more than ever before — in contact with the Druze, and not just with (Arslan's) group. Relations are also being maintained with Junblatt's group, although it is clear that the Syrians have great influence on this group, and with Shi'ite groups in southern Lebanon. The various factions have been explicitly told that Israel has no more military obligations toward either of them when it comes to the internal war they are waging against each other. This matter has been made particularly clear to the Phalangists.

The new line dictates the IDF's behavior in the fighting between Christians and Druze in the Ash-Shuf mountains. IDF commanders have been ordered to meticulously see that they do not favor one group over the other. The commanders have also been allowed to threaten those who open fire not in self-defense, although they should under no circumstances intervene directly in the fighting.

PLO Ash-Shuf Involvement Doubted

TA120716 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 12 May 83

[Excerpt] General Amnon Lipkin, commander of Israeli forces in the Beirut area, says there is no evidence that Palestinians have been fighting side by side with Druze in the Ash-Shuf mountains clahses.

Earlier, it was reported that the bodies of two Palestinians had been found after a clash in the town of At-Tayyibah. Lipkin said the Syrians were doing nothing to stop the fighting. The clashes had stopped after a meeting between Druze and Christians organized by the Israeli army, he stressed. He expected further meetings between Phalange representatives and Walid Junblatt's Druze militia leaders to take place soon.

Arens on Future of West Bank Settlements

TA111740 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Defense Minister Moshe Arens expressed his belief that thousands of settlements and towns will be established in Judaea and Samaria, with hundreds of thousands of Jews, including universities. The governing of Judaea and Samaria will be Jewish and Israeli. He was speaking in Gush 'Ezyon.

Minister Arens said that Gush 'Ezyon was an aim and a symbol to us for the territories of Eretz Yisra'el which we were forced to leave during a war, and which we had to return to later.

Our correspondent Shalom Oren reports that Minister Arens took part in the ceremony of unveiling monuments in memory of the four settlements which fell in Gush 'Ezyon, 'Nen Zurim, Kefar 'Ezyon, and Massu'ot Yizhaq and Revadim, and in memory of the 240 men who died defending Gush 'Ezyon.

WHO Finds No Evidence of West Bank Poisonings

TA111120 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] The WHO has not found any medical evidence proving that poisonings occurred in Judaea and Samaria about 2 months ago. A report published by the organization's president in Geneva said that the blood tests performed on the girl students who claimed they had been poisoned showed nothing irregular.

However, the writers of the report say that the inhabitants in Judaea and Samaria, especially the youth at the age of puberty, must be protected against a situation of fear and pressure liable to harm their health.

A WHO team visited Israel some 5 weeks ago to investigate the poisoning affair on the instructions of the UN general secretary.

Soviet Delegation Coming for 7-Day Visit
TA091548 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1528 GMT 9 May 83

[Text] Tel Aviv, 9 May [ITIM] — At the end of the week, a delegation from the Soviet Union will arrive in Israel as the guest of the Israeli-Soviet Friendship Association, to take part in the festivals marking the 38th anniversary of the victory over Nazi Germany.

The delegation is composed of: Dr Karon Khachaturov (deputy director of the NOVOSTI news agency and member of the Presidium and the Soviet Committee for Solidarity With Asian and African Countries); Dr (Igor Bleib) (member of the Presidium of the WPC, editor of LITERATURNAYA GAZETA, and a well-known commentator on Middle Eastern affairs for the papers PRAVDA and IZVESTIYA); and (Gliks Costas) chairman of a kolkhoz, member of the Supreme Soviet of Lithuania.

A delegation of artists has also arrived including (Olga Voronz), singer and soloist from the (Moskoncert), and (Anatoliy Sqiyolin), a soloist from the Moscow philharmonic orchestra.

The delegation will appear at many rallies, will meet with public figures and Knesset members, and will also visit towns, villages, and kibbutzim. The delegation will spend 7 days in Israel.

Cuban Delegation On Restoring Diplomatic Ties
TA101143 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 10 May 83 p 1

[Report by Yehuda Tzur]

[Text] Diplomatic relations between Cuba and Israel, which were severed 10 years ago, will be reestablished not when just the Palestinian problem is solved, but when Israel also establishes normal relations with all the other states in the region. This was stated yesterday by the head of the Cuban delegation visiting Israel as guests of RAKAH.

(Eluai Valdes), the chairman of the Cuban ruling party's international relations department, maintains that Israeli involvement has escalated the conflict in Central America because after the United States, Israel is the second largest supplier of arms and advisers to the regimes of Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala. This hurts Israel's image and endangers its standing in the Third World, which has been damaged anyway, the Cuban delegation leader said.

Answering a question, the delegation leader said if MAPAM invites observers from the Cuban Communist Party to take part in its coming conference, the party will give it serious consideration.

In the course of their visit, which ends today, the Cuban delegation visited Beersheba, Bedouin tribes in the Negev, At-Taiyiba, Nazereth, Haifa, Jerusalem, and Tel Aviv, and met with members of the Peace Now movement.

Foreign Debt Now Up to $20.9 Billion
TA090631 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 9 May 83 p 1

[Report by economic affairs correspondent Avi Temkin]

[Text] Israel's foreign debt increased by almost 15 percent during 1982 — from $18.2 billion in December, 1981 to $20.9 billion in December, 1982.

Figures released by the Bank of Israel yesterday show that the relatively large increase in the country's foreign obligations was accompanied by a worsening in the composition of the country's total debt. Israel's short-term debts comprised 13.1 percent of the total at the end of 1981. But they increased faster than long-term borrowings, and 12 months later accounted for 15.4 percent of the whole.

During the current year Israel will have to repay some $5.7 billion to foreign governments and institutions, of which $1.2 billion will be paid as interest and the rest on the principal. However, economic observers pointed out that a large part of these repayments are due to short-term credits which can be renegotiated at short notice.

Commenting on these figures, the head of the Alignment faction in the Knesset Finance Committee, MK 'Adi Amoray, said that the increase in Israel's foreign debt is the result and proof of the failure of the government's economic policies.

Criticism of Finance Minister Yoram Aridor's policies also came from the Coalition. Appearing on television yesterday, former Finance Minister Yiga'el Hurvitz blamed Aridor's policies for the increase in private consumption, and warned that unless something was done quickly, factories would soon begin to close down. But Hurvitz supported Aridor's opposition to wage increases to doctors and teachers, saying that he hoped the finance minister would be able to stand his ground.

ALGERIA

Spanish Cooperation Agreement Signed 11 May

LD112141 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] An agreement was signed today between Algeria and Spain. On the Algerian side, it was signed by brother Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, member of the Political Bureau; and on the Spanish side by the Spanish Foreign Minister Fernando Moran. The agreement provides for the establishment of an Algerian-Spanish joint commission to promote economic, scientific, and technical cooperation between the two countries. The signing ceremony was held in the presence of the ambassadors of the two countries and the head of the Europe and North America Department at the Foreign Ministry.

Joint Communique Issued After PCF Visit

PM110913 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 29-30 Apr 83 p 6

[APS report: "Close Cooperation"]

[Text] Algiers [no date given] — Mr Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the Politburo and chief of the Central Committee Permanent Secretariat, and PCF Secretary General Georges Marchais signed a joint communique at the Zigout Youcef Palace Thursday morning [28 April] on the talks which the PCF delegation had with the Algerian officials.

The text of this communique is as follows:

At the invitation of the FLN party, a PCF delegation headed by Secretary General Georges Marchais made an official visit to Algeria.

During its visit the PCF delegation was received by President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and FLN party secretary general. President Chadli Bendjedid, secretary general of the FLN party, and Mr Georges Marchais had a long and friendly meeting during which questions of common interest were discussed.

The PCF delegation was also received by Politburo member Mr Rabah Bitat, chairman of the National People's Assembly.

The PCF delegation had important talks with an FLN party delegation headed by Mr Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the Politburo and chief of the Central Committee Permanent Secretariat.

These talks were attended on the PCF side by: Politburo Member Madeleine Vincent; Central Committee Member Guy Poussy; and Alain Gresh, member of the Foreign Policy Section.

On the Algerian side by: Central Committee and Permanent Secretariat member Salah Louanchi; Central Committee and Permanent Secretariat member Kamel Bouchama; Hocine Kamel, Central Committee member and External Relations Committee keynote speaker; Abdelkrim Souissi, member of the Central Committee and chairman of the Association of Algerians in Europe, Mohamed Saidi, member of the Central Committee and keynote speaker of the Economic and Social Commission; and Abdelkader Neghra, director of the Europe-North America Section of the External Relations commission.

These talks, which took place in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding, concerned bilateral relations, relations between Algeria and France, the development of the international situation and the strengthening of anti-imperialist solidarity.

The Algerian delegation informed the PCF delegation of the action pursued by the FLN Party since the fourth congress and the extraordinary congress, and of the tasks it is assigning itself in its preparations for its fifth congress.

Similarly it reported on the progress achieved by the Algerian revolution in the economic, social, and cultural spheres. In this framework it stressed the importance of implementing the national development plan.

The PCF delegation for its part informed the Algerian delegation of the changes which have taken place in France since the left's victory in 1981. It explained the PCF's activity, which is based on the 24th congress's policy and strategy to achieve the objectives for which the French opted 2 years ago.

Algeria-France: Need for Comprehensive Approach to Cooperation

Examining relations between France and Algeria the two delegations welcomed the new course they have taken since the left's victory in France in 1981. They said they were convinced that cooperation between Algeria and France on a new basis in keeping with the interests of the two peoples and the two countries and respecting the political choices of each will be a contribution to the development of North-South relations. To this end a comprehensive approach to cooperation is necessary and must relate to all economic, political, cultural, and human problems.

The FLN Party and PCF discussed the position of Algerian immigrants in France and the various problems they are still facing — living and working conditions, sociocultural problems, vocational training, security, and racist campaigns.

The two deleagtions welcomed the good relations existing between the Association of Algerians in Europe and the PCF and the initial measures taken by the leftwing government. They expressed their firm determinatiton to work in close cooperation with a view to settling outstanding problems and preserving the interests and dignity of the Algerian community in France.

Mediterranean: Respecting the Peoples' Aspiration

Analyzing the international situation, the two delegations noted that it is characterized by a resurgence of the aggressiveness shown by imperialism, which is trying to curb the peoples' struggle for their emancipation, to call into question national independence, to step up economic and financial pressures, and

to increase interference in states' internal affairs with the aim of winning back lost positions, thus whipping up hotbeds of tension, stepping up the arms race and endangering peace and international security.

The two parties consider that it is possible to thwart this policy provided all the forces committed to peace, social progress, and democracy unite in action at the national and international level. The PCF and FLN Party confirmed their desire to each contribute to this action.

The two delegations examined the situation in the Mediterranean basin, where the imperialist desire for domination is being perpetuated and where the imperialist reactivation of military bases and many forms of pressure constitute the most flagrant demonstrations of the attempt to thwart the aspiration of the region's peoples to self-determination and independence.

The two parties stressed the need to make every effort to turn the Mediterranean into a zone of peace and cooperation. In this connection they recalled the close link between security in Europe and in the Mediterranean. They welcomed the results of the conference of Mediterranean socialist and progressive parties held in Algiers in 1982 and the prospects it opened up for making the Mediterranean area a haven of cooperation, understanding and solidarity among the region's peoples.

Middle East

The FLN party and the PCF discussed the development of the situation in the Middle East and northwest Africa with particular attention.

The two parties strongly condemned the aggressive and expansionist Israeli policy against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples.

They noted that the grave developments in the situation, whipped up and maintained by U.S. duplicity, suggest that there will be new aggressions against the countries in the region, especially the Syrian Arab Republic, and seriously threaten peace and international security.

The FLN party and the PCF reiterated their support for the Palestinian people and reaffirmed that a just and lasting peace in the Middle East requires recognition of the Palestinian people's national rights, including the creation of their own state under the leadership of the PLO, the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative, and the withdrawal of Israeli troops from all the occupied Arab territories, including Jerusalem.

In this framework they consider that the Fes plan offers a basis for solving this problem. The two parties welcomed the success of the 16th PNC meeting held in Algiers in February 1983.

Turning to the Lebanese problem, the two parties reaffirmed their commitment to Lebanon's independence, unity, and territorial integrity. They hailed the Lebanese people's resistance to the Israeli occupation and are convinced that the withdrawal of the Israeli troops from Lebanon, in keeping with UN Resolutions 508 and 509, will enable Lebanon to exercise its sovereignty and authority over the whole country.

Decolonization: Support for the Liberation Movements

The situation in northwest Africa was the subject of a broad discussion between the two delegations, which confirmed their support for the struggle of the Saharan people under the Polisario's leadership and supported the relevant OAU and UN resolutions, recognizing the Saharan people's legitimate right to self-determination and independence. They recalled that the implementation of this process requires the opening of direct negotiations between Morocco and the Polisario.

The PCF learned with interest of Algeria's desire to improve its relations with the neighboring countries and its efforts to build a Greater Arab Maghreb and it stressed that this approach is a contribution to the establishment of peace in the Mediterranean.

The two parties discussed the situation prevailing in southern Africa. They expressed their grave concern at the racist South African regime's growing aggressiveness toward the independent countries in the region, especially Angola, Mozambique, and Lesotho.

They expressed support for the struggle of the South African people and their vanguard the ANC against the apartheid regime. Similarly they reiterated their solidarity with the Namibian people, who, under the leadership of SWAPO, their authentic representative, are facing international imperialism's plot and struggling for their national independence.

The two parties reiterated their full and complete solidarity with the peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean, especially those of El Salvador, Chile, and Nicaragua, who are faced with oligarchies, dictatorship, facism, and aggressions and foreign interference.

The FLN party and the PCF think that the advent of real detente is linked with the solutions which are applied to the deep crisis affecting international relations and to the transformation of the economic and financial system, which is perpetuating inequality among nations and preventing the establishment of a new, more just economic order.

The two parties stated that nonalignment is a major factor in settling this crisis and a dynamic and effective movement for transforming international relations to the benefit of justice, progress, and universal peace.

In this connection they welcomed the positive and encouraging results produced by the Seventh Nonaligned Summit in New Delhi.

At the end of their meeting the FLN party and the PCF expressed satisfaction at the ties of friendship and solidarity which have always characterized their relations and stressed that these relations are a contribution to friendship between the French and Algerian peoples and to the development of cooperation between the two countries.

The two parties agreed to extend their cooperation by signing a cooperation program for 1983 and 1984. The PCF invited an FLN party delegation to visit France and the invitation was accepted with pleasure.

France's Marchais Comments

PM111525 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 29-30 Apr 83 p 6

[Interview with PCF Secretary General Georges Marchais by APS in Algiers on 28 April]

[Text] Algiers — Shortly before his departure for Paris yesterday afternoon at the end of a 3-day official visit to Algeria at the FLN's invitation, PCF Secretary General Georges Marchais granted an interview to APS.

In his interview the PCF secretary general first made a very positive assessment of the results of his visit to Algeria, which of course dealt with relations between the FLN and PCF, and obviously with the two parties' assessment of Algerian-French cooperation and the international situation.

Mr Georges Marchais did not dwell on the results of his visit to Algeria — an aspect which, moreover, is "dealt with exhaustively by the joint communique." Indeed, he specified that the eminently positive content of the FLN-PCF joint communique "bears witness to the excellent nature of relations between the two parties and their agreement on all the questions which were examined."

"We examined the state of relations between our two parties and adopted a new cooperation plan which will enable us to develop them further," he said.

Before turning to other questions the PCF secretary general was eager to express satisfaction with the talks he had with President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and FLN secretary general. He described this interview as "warm and friendly, enabling us to assess a whole series of major questions."

Asked to explain the present and future action which the PCF is taking and plans to take inside and outside the present French Government, in which it is participating, to help Algerian immigrants in France, Mr Georges Marchais said: "In the short term it is necessary to firmly condemn and categorically reject the racist and xenophobic campaign which we are witnessing in our country. Because," he stressed, "the underlying reason for the definite insecurity France is experiencing, invoked and blown up out of all proportion by the French right in an attempt to blame the immigrant workers, lies in French society's present crisis.

"That is why," he added, "it is necessary to pay close attention to this campaign, which culminated during the recent municipal elections, and to combat it. That is what we are doing. We will pursue our efforts in this direction, and, in the normal course of events, we should pursue them in the best conditions now that the Left is in power."

Indeed, Mr Marchais thinks that a leftwing government ought naturally to mean that questions relating to immigrants in France can be tackled and solved in a constructive spirit. Moreover, in this connection he reiterated his intention to request a meeting with Interior Minister Gaston Defferre on the PCF's behalf so that, he said, "We can make a serious examination of this situation."

"However," the PCF secretary general nonetheless stressed, "It is out of the question for France to do what is being done in several countries in which unemployment is very high, in other words, for the immigrant workers to be expelled. Of course, we must not bring in more only to turn them into unemployed people."

Finally in this connection he expressed his hope of seeing the desired French economic recovery "make it possible to reduce unemployment and improve the situation in this sphere."

With regard to the international situation Mr Georges Marchais referred to the joint communique which was issued on his visit to Algeria and which reaffirmed the two parties' support for all peoples struggling for freedom, independence, dignity, and well-being, and their condemnation of imperialist subversion, which spares no region of the world.

As regards the Mediterranean basin which France and Algeria border, the PCF secretary general recalled that the positions held by his party and the FLN are identical in view of the fact that they are in keeping with the legitimate aspirations of all the peoples in the region for a policy "ensuring the security of both states and citizens but also movivng toward the reduction of armaments, in other words, the absence of foreign troops."

With regard to the initiatives, particularly Algerian initiatives, aimed at implementing the idea of the Greater Arab Maghreb, Mr Georges Marchais expressed the view that that is a very good thing "not only because such provisions make it possible to solve problems and iron out existing difficulties but also because — irrespective of the obviously new relations which might develop in economic and other spheres — it would also be a considerable factor for peace in this part of the world."

Also questions on his party's attitude to the incomprehensible reservations expressed by the French Government about the holding of a conference of Palestine in Paris next August at the United Nations' initiative, the PCF secretary general stated:

"We are resolutely in favor of this conference taking place on the appointed date and in Paris. We are resolutely in favor of that and are campaigning for it."

Polish Deputy Premier Meets With Ministers

LD111126 Algiers APS in English 1020 GMT 11 MAY 83

[Text] Algiers, 11/5/83 (APS) — Mr Rabah Bitat, Politbureau member and president of the People's National Assembly (APN) received yesterday in the morning in the APN'S headquarter Mr Janusz Obodowski, Polish deputy prime minister, president of the State Commission to plan who is on an official visit in Algeria.

This meeting enabled a wide exchange of point of views over the

state of Algero-Polish cooperation and the prospects of its development at the parliamentary level. The two responsibles expressed satisfaction with the good reports of cooperation existing between the national [as received] and the Polish diet and agreed to the exchanges between the specialized commissions of the two parliaments.

The Polish deputy prime minister has also been received by Mr Saleh Goudjil minister of transports and fisheries. Talks dealt with cooperation between Poland and Algeria in the field of maritime, air, railway transports.

Mr Obodowski also had talks with Mr Ahmed Ali Ghazali minister of housing and town planning. Talks dealt with construction and renovation where Polish [as received] have a good experience.

The Polish deputy prime minister has finally been audienced by Mr Abdelhak Berarhi minister of teaching and scientific research.

The two sides dealt with state of relations of cooperation between the two countries and examined the ways and means of its strengthening.

Bendjedid Meets Polish Minister

LD111427 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] This morning Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and party secretary general, received at his office Janusz Obodowski, Polish deputy premier and chairman of the State Planning Commission. Obodowski brought the president a message from General Jaruzelski, first secretary of Polish United Workers' Party Central Committee and Polish premier.

Present at the meeting were Abdelhamid Brahimi, planning and national development minister, and the Polish ambassador.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Press Conference 11 May

LD111917 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1830 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Tripoli, 11 May (JANA) — The brother commander of the revolution has announced that the Jamahiriyah considers the result of the U.S.-Israeli-Lebanese negotiations as the annexation of Lebanon by Israel. This agreement, he said, means that an Arab country has lost its independence and from now on, Libya will not treat Lebanon as an independent state if the agreement is completed.

Speaking at a press conference in Tripoli this morning in the presence of international and local radios, news agencies, and press, the brother commander said that Libya accuses the official Lebanese authorities of selling Lebanon's independence, and that these authorities had agreed on this prior to the Zionist aggression on Lebanon last year — particularly the Phalangists, who want to strike an alliance with the enemies of the Arab nation. They want live as a group in the Middle East and ally themselves with a group hostile to the Lebanese people and the Arab nation.

If this agreement is implemented, we will not deal with them as an authroity. We consider this agreement a prelude to American military presence in the Middle East. This is a grave step, which will threaten peace and lead to direct friction between U.S. forces and Soviet forces in the Middle East.

The brother commander declared that Libya warns any Arab government that blesses the outcome of this action. He affirmed that the Lebanese-Zionist-American agreement is more serious than the stable David accords, which were signed by As-Sadat, because it enables the Israelis to confront Syria alone. We must not forget that the real criminal is Egypt because it was the one that secured Israel's southern front, enabling the Israelis to throw their entire weight on the northern front to subdue it by force. On the whole, we have this scenario: from the occupation of Palestine in 1948 to Egypt's capitulation to the robbing of Lebanon's independence. The scenario will continue to be applied to the Arab countries unless there is an Arab confrontation.

The brother commander declared that Libya will play its role in building up a strong Arab front of confrontation, that there can be no other solution, and that we reject all negotiations with the United States or anyone else over the Israeli presence.

He said that the door of negotiations must be closed and arms must be carried. We will motivate the Arab nation on this. We warn Arab rulers that if they fail in this confrontation, a pan-Arab civil war will break out.

On the importance of building up an Arab confrontation front and the countries who would participate in it, the brother commander said that without the need to mention any Arab country, the train of death is threatening the entire Arab homeland. It has already stormed Lebanon and is still trying to storm the other Arab countries. The train of death is storming the Arabs from the extreme right to the extreme left. It will storm Libya, which is situated on the extreme left; and will storm Saudi Arabia, which is on the extreme right. The enemy does not care about personalities as much as it cares about land and its potential.

In this context, he referred to the Lebanese and the Phalangists who have been friends of the Israelis — yet the Israelis have destroyed Lebanon, occupied it, robbed it of its independence, and set fire to its towns.

He said that the Arab confrontation front will embrace the entire Arab nation because the danger threatens the entire Arab nation. We will now address ourselves to the responsible Arab officials who dominate the Arab peoples. If we fail to persuade them, then we will address ourselves to the masses, ignore the officials, and civil war will break out.

If the Israeli enemy is no longer an enemy and peace with him is imposed on us, then we must distribute our aircraft, tanks, and guns among all the popular groups who wish to fight to change Arab reality. We will begin from now, he said, to make contacts for building up the confrontation front at the highest levels. We

will overlook all considerations for the sake of testing the Arab regimes and their ability at confrontation. He said that we will exclude the Egyptian regime from this because it does fall within the framework of these contacts and it is not intended by what we are talking about now.

The brother leader of the revolution spoke about the halting of the Libyan Arab planes that were carrying Libyan aid to Nicaragua and about the attitude of the Brazilian authorities, which hindered the arrival of this aid.

The leader explained that as an independent state, Brazil has the right to permit the Libyan planes to continue their journey or to return, but any other behavior is considered illogical and unreasonable. We regret very much that the Government of Brazil is involved in unreasonable and illogical behavior. The leader added that Libya's stance is absolutely clear. It demands that Brazil either allow the planes to continue to Nicaragua or return to Libya; any other action is totally unacceptable and the Government of Brazil has no right to take such action.

The brother leader of the revolution declared that the relationship between Libya and Brazil will be brought before the popular conferences that embrace all the Libyan people with the vested authority at the ordinary session of the convening of the popular conferences. The leader explained that this problem has nothing to do with the Brazilians living in Libya, the Libyans living in Brazil, or the Arabs living in Brazil; we respect and protect our guests.

Regarding the installation of American missiles at Comiso in Italy, the brother commander said we will do all we can to confront these missiles in self-defense. He affirmed that the alliance between us and the Italian masses will now become stronger because these masses are also fighting against the American bases.

The commander called on the Italian masses to rise in a popular revolution to rid themselves of American occupation and NATO's domination, which has caused Italy to lose its independence.

The commander affirmed that all Italian parties have failed in solving the social and economic problems in Italy. Instead of Italian society turning to underground violence as the Red Brigades do, it must resort to an overall popular revolution and rid itself once and for all of partisanship, parliamentarianism, and classism and set up popular congresses and popular committees.

The brother commander called on Italian youth to set up revolution committees; instigation of the Italian masses to rise in a popular revolution should begin so an eternal relationship of peace and friendship can be struck between the Libyan Jamahiriyah and the Italian jamahiriyah in the future when both will be jamahiriyas and establish a bridge across the Mediterranean for civilization, peace, freedom, and democracy.

The brother commander also spoke at his press conference on the armed forces. He pointed out that the regular army will disappear under the jamahiri system because it is contrary to the nature of that system. It will be replaced by the armed people. Training of the armed people on the use of arms is proceeding day and night; the military task of the jamahiri society shall be purely defensive.

Replying to a question as to whether his recent visit to a number of African countries has convinced him that the slogan he had raised — "Africa is for the Africans" — can be realized, the brother commander said: I have discovered that if the United States has atomic bombs, we have human bombs. I have discovered that all the popular masses in Africa are with us. They all cheered for the Libyan revolution and against America and Zionism. This means that the black march is coming, he affirmed.

Replying to a question concerning the national Chadian Government, the brother commander affirmed that that is the legitimate government and all African countries support it. It is not a government in exile but a government inside Chad, governing half of Chad. It will seize Ndjamena in the future without any outside help because it is composed of all factions that constitute the Chadian people. The one presently ruling Ndjamena is only one faction and the Ndjamena regime should be considered as ended.

The press conference was attended by correspondents of the following news agencies, television, radio, and press: BBC television, the OBSERVER, the MIDDLE EAST, REUTER, French Channel 2, AFP, Brazilian television and radio, Italian television Channel 2, Italian radio, the Italian news agency ANSA, EL MASSIGERO, EL MANGISTO, and L'UNITA.

PLO Envoy on Assassin Recruit's Affiliation

LD111424 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] In a television interview last night the PLO representative in the Jamahiriyah expressed his disappointment at what 'Abd al-Qadir Musa al-Khatib, the Palestinian national recruited by the CIA to implement a dirty terrorist plan aimed at assassinating the brother leader of the revolution, had done. He said that the Palestinian people and revolution cared very much about the security of the Jamahiriyah and the gains of the Libyan Arab people and the leader of their revolution, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. He added: We categorically do not allow, accept or want to cause the slightest harm to the security of the Jamahiriyah, thus confirming the support which the Jamahiriyah has been providing to the Palestinian people and revolution. He said that everyone knows the extent of the material and moral support which has been provided to the Palestinian revolution by the Jamahiriyah, including the stream of Libyan Arab martyrs from 1948 to the present. He confirmed that the Libyan Arab people and the Palestinian people shared the same trench. He said: I do not allow at all that one should conspire against the Libyan people; the Libyan and Palestinian people are [word indistinct]. He added: Why should we conspire against the one who backed us with arms and men and who stood firmly against the capitulationist plans?

The PLO representative denied that the person called 'Abd al-Qadir Musa al-Khatib had any relation with Fatah, whether at the organizational or the liaison levels, that he is not a member

or supporter and that this will never be so.

MAURITANIA

Foreign Minister Visits Oman on Gulf Tour

AB111107 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Major Ahmed Ould Minnih, foreign affairs and cooperation minister, is in Muscat the capital of the Sultanate of Oman for a visit of a few days. On his arrival, the minister told the press that he is carrying a message from the CMSN president and head of state to Oman's Sultan Qsbus Ibn Sa'id. The message is on recent developments in North Africa and on cooperation between Mauritania and the Sultanate of Oman. The minister arrived in Muscat from Abu Dhabi as part of his tour of Gulf states.

SUDAN

SUNA on Arrest of Fatah Member in Libya

JN111157 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1050 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Tripoli, 11 May (SUNA) — The Libyan regime's authorities have said that a Palestinian struggler, a member of the Fatah organization, was arrested here recently on charges of planning to assasinate Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

Informed sources said that the person arrested is Palestinian struggler 'Abd al-Qaddir al-Khatib, a computer programmer. The Libyan regime's authorities claimed that struggler Al-Khatib had made a confession.

Col al-Qadhdhafi is facing strong opposition from the National Front for the Salvation of Libya and that the internal front is escalating its uprisings to save Libya from Al-Qadhdhafi's tyranny.

Security Forces Apprehend Libyan Agent

JN111531 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1450 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Khartoum, 11 May (SUNA) — The state security organs have managed to apprehend a prominent member of the Libyan Sudanese revolutionary committees, a man whose activities have been under surveillance for 2 years. The accused, 32-year-old Fayiz Hasan Khalil, went to Libya in 1979 and was enlisted into the so-called Sudanese revolutionary committees, which were formed by the Libyan revolutionary committees.

Fayiz Hasan Khalil received military and ideological training at three Libyan camps after taking an oath before the supervisors of the revolutionary committees to work toward promoting the ideas of Al-Qadhdhafi's Green Book and the so-called Third Universal Theory. He was provided with an open travel ticket to enable him to visit several world capitals. The military training which the accused received involved commando training and the use of machineguns, pistols, handgrenades, and guerilla warfare tactics. The accused excelled in the training he received. This is an unusual case, because such a mission is usually carried out by the Libyans themselves.

SUNA has learned that the Libyan authorities commissioned the accused, Fayiz Hasan Khalil, to work against Sudan and its legitimate authority and to collect information which would help the Libyans in plotting against Sudan. It said that the Sudanese revolutionary committees were to implement this scheme with armed assistance from the Libyan revolutionary committees.

SUNA added that the accused, Fayiz, had returned to Sudan 2 years ago and had immediately begun to mobilize and enlist Sudanese elements in the revolutionary committees. He became a commission agent in the capital's markets as a cover and a means to work among the Sudanese masses. He began to advocate the Third Universal Theory and to mobilize the elements who had been recruited by Libya. Though its surveillance of the movements of the accused after his return to the country, the state security organs managed to apprehend most of the revolutionary committees' elements.

SUNA's investigations revealed that the Libyan revolutionary committees circles are extremely enraged by the arrest of most of the leading elements of the so-called Sudanese revolutionary committees by the Sudanese security authorities. The Libyan revolutionary committees said that their Sudanese counterparts were impotent and urged them not to recruit so-called slack elements. These committees have lost all their pillars in Sudan before they were established.

The elements of the Sudanese revolutionary committees began to disappear or collapse as soon as they arrived in Sudan, thus failing to establish themselves among the Sudanese masses.

TUNISIA

Prime Minister Receives PLO Envoy 9 May

LD101235 Tunis TAP in Arabic 1000 GMT 10 May 83

[Text] Tunis, 10 May — Tunisian Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali yesterday met with PLO representative Hakam Balawi, who said later that they discussed the situation through which the Arab area is passing and developments with regard to the Palestine question.

He said that he informed Mzali of the role the PLO is playing to create an effective and influential Arab solidarity capable of confronting Zionist designs and arbitrary Israeli measures such as the confiscation of land and the suppression of the inhabitants of the occupied territory. Balawi said that he also informed Mzali about the acts that Israel and its agents are committing against the Palestinian camps and the sedition they seek to create with a view to shattering the unity of Lebanon and embroiling it in numerous problems in a bid to isolate it from the other Arab countries. Balawi praised Tunisia's political and other activities in the Arab and international fields in support of the Arab position, the Palestinians' just cause and the Palestine revolution.

ETHIOPIA

Military Commissariat Organizes Regional Militia

EA111326 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1715 GMT 10 May 83

[Excerpts] It is a known fact that the broad masses of Ethiopia have preserved their freedom and unity for centuries. Accordingly, the defeat of our enemies by our forefathers has a prominent place in the history of the peoples of the world. The Ethiopian people have registered an unfading example for the masses oppressed by colonialism in Africa, Asia, and other continents by winning victories against aggressors on different fronts.

It is well known that the people have made many sacrifices to defend the integrity of the motherland and that they are now enjoying the benefits of these sacrifices. It is also a reminder that the people were under recent neocolonial, feudal, and monarchist administrative oppression and have suffered backwardness, whose scarshas not yet healed completely. Our great revolution is the eruption of the symptoms of all this oppression, which forced the masses to revolt.

Imperialism's renewed efforts to take away the fruits won by our martyrs should be viewed seriously, even though the struggles by our revolutionary heroes have enabled us to reach this point and have given us a strong basis for our future struggles. As a result, the need to carry out precautionary preparations in order to defend ourselves against the probable dangers of war and attack has become more obvious. The working people need preparation to enable them to protect their unity and the victories of their revolution inside and also outside its immediate surroundings and to enhance the development of a new socialist society.

In this respect, one of the defense sectors through which the people can enhance their ability to defend their security is through organizing the Regional Militia. The establishment of the Military Commissariat cannot be overlooked in the proper organization of this defense sector, in the necessary military training of the members, in ensuring it is properly armed and that it carries out its duties properly, and in helping in the implementation of national military service. The most important duty of the Military Commissariat is to make preparations to facilitate the deployment of the Regional Militia to defend the motherland from enemies within and without and to defend public and government property from natural and man-made disasters whenever necessary.

The commissariat's other main task is to create a favorable situation for the protection of the country's security through an extensive people's defense force, to hold periodic refresher courses for the registered force of reservists, and to recruit and train able citizens for national military service. It will have a major role in preparing and deploying an army to march alongside the regular Army when reactionary forces attack our country. It is imperative to be organized in all the necessary aspects in order to ensure that our revolution, built on the martyrdom of dear citizens, which has given us victory after victory and which has produced a history which is an example for the world, reaches its goal.

In view of these apprehensions, the need for the national military service and the Regional Militia to integrate our defense in a strong people's force was declared by the COPWE Central Committee, and its immediate implementation was resolved by the second COPWE congress. The responsibility for establishing the Regional Militia, implementing national military service and achieving the aims of our long-term defense buildup plan will fall on the Military Commissariat.

Our country's strategic position has attracted the attention of our traditional enemies for centuries and to them we must now add our new opponents. It is clear that these forces which have provoked war have not completely ceased their acts but instead are now trying to revive them. Now that our revolution has strengthened its victories and superiority on the national and even international levels, reactionaries have become greatly alarmed and are busily working to widen the focus of their activities against our region. One of our main tasks during this period is to extend and develop the organization and strength of our defense force in order to crush the plots of reactionaries, either inside or outside the country, to defend our unity and to secure our true and full independence, and to achieve a better life by enhancing our economic and social development and by building our vanguard workers' party. In this respect, the proclamation and implementation of the Military Commissariat and regional militia is a timely and necessary part of our effort.

Demonstration Supports Conscription

NC111650 Paris AFP in English 1313 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Addis Ababa, May 11 (AFP) — Old warrior songs reverberated at Revolution Square here today as tens of thousands of this city's residents converged to demonstrate in support of last week's government proclamation launching national military service. The crowd, estimated to be one of the biggest of its kind in recent years, carried banners and chanted slogans backing the decree that legalized the draft in Ethiopia for the first time. Traditional battle songs were sung during the six-hour rally addressed by head of state Mengistu Haile Mariam.

In his speech, Lieutenant-Colonel Mengistu recalled that weakened defences had caused disasters in past revolutions, citing the Paris Commune, the Russian revolution and the overthrow of the Salvador Allende regime in Chile as the prime examples.

The ruling Military Council, or Dergue, announced the decree on May 3, declaring all citizens between the ages of 18 and 30 eligible for conscription. People aged up to 50 who have had previous military training or are retired will be considered as active reservists.

The law stipulates six months of military training to be followed by two years of active service in the field.

At least two training camps are believed to have been completed for the recruits but precisely when the call-up will start will be determined by Defence Minister Tesfaye Gebre Kidan.

The Dergue last night announced another proclamation providing for the establishment of military commissariats to take over direct responsibility for draftees and to launch neighbourhood militias. It was the third defence-linked decree in under six weeks.

At the end of March, the Dergue issued a decree creating a National Defence and Security Council that is to initiate and develop policy related to mobilizing civilians, the armed services and the militia in time of war or natural calamities.

Mengistu Comments on Need for Militia, Army

LD111807 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 0900 GMT 11 May 83

[Speech by Colonel Haile Mariam Mengistu in Addis Ababa's Revolution Square; intercepted in progress — live]

[Excerpts] It is obvious that we must organize our defense forces accordingly. We are making great efforts to have a strong defense force to defend our rights, not for invasion and [words indistinct]. [Passage indistinct] but because reactionaries cannot understand any language and are not willing to accept anything besides revolt, the workers' choice must be revolution. Although the workers' first choice and all their efforts must be directed toward making use of mass revolution, this should not entail bloodshed to gain power. History and experience prove that this was and still is the nature of true peoples revolutions.

However, no revolution has immediately embarked on development, organization, and forming something new in the lives of the oppressed and exploited people without making enormous sacrifices through fierce attacks by the defeated groups in their efforts to regain what they lost. In fact, the number of peoples revolutions that were destroyed as a result of counterattacks after their initial victory is considerable.

Therefore, even though our revolution has survived many subversive attacks, the struggles of many determined revolutionaries have meant enormous sacrifices. It is not necessary to repeat to the workers the many struggles we waged against invasion and aggression instigated by monarchists, landlords, reactionary secessionists, adventurists, and the petty bourgeois; generally against those in the pay of imperialism both internal and external.

Our enemies have treacherously spilled the blood of many of our compatriots by changing their methods and places of attack. They have destroyed a number of our development institutions. They have destroyed our towns and villages. They have obstructed our international economic realtions. They have passed sanctions to stop us from acquiring very necessary defense weapons.

On the other hand, there is no plot or injustice that they have not committed against us by providing all kinds of material and moral support to those in their pay, both within and outside the country.

We cannot overlook the fact that the sacrifices paid in former times were enormous because of lack of coordination. Today, the former situation has mostly been abolished because our revolution has given us the organizational work methods based on political consciousness, which is the fundamental guarantee for victories in all fields.

We have progressed today from the situatinon where we used to ask for general (?cooperation) after announcing our national problems. We have passed to a stage where we can move according to programs and plans.

I believe that our action to establish national military service, a Military Commissariat, and Regional Militia is one sign of our progress.[applause] The implementation of these institutions will give us one very important way of building a new social system.

Although the role of the national military service and Regional Militia is to organize the people to withstand any attacks from enemies at any time, they also have an important additional role. There are many revolutionary activities that can be carried out during peacetime by the national military service. Great benefits may be gained by training workers' children in various development vocations.

When we say defending the motherland from dangers, we must realize that it includes defending the motherland from all man-made and natural disasters. Fending off our internal and external enemies is only one facet of guarding against dangers. This ability to defend ourselves from man-made and natural disasters is the second important area of defense. Implementation of the first requires the organization of the regular Army, the national military service, and the Regional Militia; the second requires the implementation of civil defense in accordance with the directives of the COPWE second congress. The principal guideline in these two defense sectors is the need to be prepared for any danger. Even though it is vital to treat one's wound after an injury, the guarantee for well-being is to be always ready to prevent damage and defend oneself resolutely if damage occurs or, if not, to minimize the extent of the damage.

Dear workers, even though there is no alternative to the implementation of the national military service to make the wide peoples base of our defense force a sound one, the regular military force is still needed. At a time when military science and tactics have greatly developed, saying there is no need for a regular force leads to being surpassed by the enemy; all countries who stand for socialism do not overlook this.

It is unrealistic to think that it is possible to confront this new situation — in which military tactics have developed apace with advanced technology — only through an army providing a short-term defense service in addition to its daily activities. It is obvious that there is a need for a highly capable and reliable regular Army. The important thing is not that it resembles any regular army in its makeup but that its strength and its aim comes from the people. This Army, with its permanent and regular establishment, is nevertheless revolutionary in its mission.

It is our national and revolutionary duty to ensure that our regular forces have an adequate knowledge of modern military science and are properly equipped and mobile in order to lay a

firm foundation for the future Peoples Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, guaranteeing peaceful conditions for the workers' development efforts and enhancing equality and collective progress for all of Ethiopia's nationalities.

In these days of modern warfare waged with scientific and technological materiel, it is possible to attain the necessary qualifications for military responsibility — which requires a lifetime of knowledge — only by being a permanent member of a regular army. Consequently, our planned buildup of the defense force depends on two factors that are inseparable one from each other: expansion of our defense base by the active participation of the Regional Militia and those on national military service, and better organization of our regular military forces.

Text of Proclamation on Regional Militia

EA112341 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1715 GMT 10 May 83

[Provisional Military Administrative Council proclamation; date not given]

[Text] Since the revolution in 1974 bestowed a number of victories on the Ethiopian masses and laid a firm foundation for further victories;

Since internal and external reactionaries whose interests were affected have not desisted from repeated attempts through various means to regain the interests taken away by the revolution;

Since the Ethiopian masses, organized through urban dwellers associations, peasants, professional, womens, youth, and cooperative associations, are to play their part in defending their country from the attacks of class enemies on their country and revolution;

Since it is necessary to organize and guide the masses in the ways of defending their country, revolution, independence, lives, and properties to increase the participation of the masses in their contribution in this repect;

Since one of the ways of realizing this is to organize a Military Commissariat and a Regional Militia comprising the masses and assisted by them in all respects,

The following proclamation has been issued in accordance with decree 110 of 1976-77, clause five, paragraph six, issued to redefine the powers and responsibilities of the Council of Ministers and the PMAC.

Part 1: General:

1. Subheading: This proclamation shall be known as Proclamation No 239 of 1983 on the establishment of the Regional Militia and Military Commissariat.

2. Definitions: For the purposes of this proclamation:

i. "Kebele" shall be taken to mean any zone in which a kebele urban dwellers association or kebele peasants association has been set up in accordace with Decrees 223/74 and 206/73, which were issued to strengthen peasants and urban dwellers associations and the urban administration;

ii. Minister: Minister shall be taken to refer to the minister of the interior;

iii Town: A town is any place so dsignated by the minister of urban development and housing.

3. Public regulations hereby revoked:

i. All clauses of decree No 129/1976-77 establishing the Department of the National Revolutionary Campaign are revoked by this proclamation with the exception of the following: clauses 123/1 and 3/2: clauses 4, 7, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29 and 30;

ii. Proclamation No 127/1976-77 defining ministerial powers and responsibilities having been (?amended), clauses 14/4/16/4 [as heard] thereof are revoked by virtue of this proclamation.

Part 2, The Military Commissariat:

4. Establishment of a Military Commissariat: A Military Commissariat is established by virtue of this proclamation.

5. Structure of the Military Commissariat: The Military Commissariat will incorprate the following organs:

i. The office of the chief military commissar;

ii. The office of the regional military commissar;

iii. The office of the provincial military commissar;

iv. The office of the district military commissar;

v. The office of the urban military commissar.

6. Office of the chief military commissar:

i. The office of the chief military commissar will be established within the Ministry of the Interior;

ii. The chief military commissar will rank as a deputy minister.

7. Responsibilities and duties of the chief military commissar: The chief military commissar will, in accordance with directives from the minister,

i. Decide on qualifications required for membership of the Regional Militia;

ii. Draw up guidelines for the establishment, training, deployment, command, control, and arming of the Regional Militia, and supervise and follow up their implementation;

iii. Draw up guidelines for and supervise the implementation of the administration of the Regional Militia at every level, their numerical establishment, induction, uniform, discipline, posting, and other similar matters. The chief military commissar will also

carry out such other duties as may be laid down by the minister.

8. The office of the regional military commissariat will be established within the regional administration office and be headed by the regional military commissar.

9. Duties and responsibilities of the regional military commissar:

In accordance with directives from the chief military commissar and the chief regional administrator, the regional military commissar will:

i. Implement the provisions of the proclamation on national military service in the region;

ii. Keep records of available property and manpower that might be required in the event of mobilization;

iii. Establish, train, arm,and deploy the Regional Militia and ensure its preparedness for duty;

iv. Ensure the implementation in the region of the guidelines on the establishment of the territorial peoples militia;

v. Carry out such other duties as may be assigned him by the chief military commissar or the chief regional administrator.

10. Answerability of the regional military commissar:

i. The regional military commissar will be answerable to the chief military commissar and the chief regional administrator;

ii. The regional military commissar will rank as a deputy regional administrator.

11. Office of the provincial military commissar: Provincial military commissariat offices will be established within the office of the provincial administration.

12. Duties and responsibilities of the provincial military commissar: Acting on instructions from the regional military commissar and the provincial administrator, the provincial military commissar will:

i. Implement the provisions of the proclamation on national military service in the province;

ii. Keep records of available property and manpower that might be required in the event of mobilization;

iii. Establish, train, arm,and deploy the provincial militia and ensure its preparedness for duty;

iv. Ensure that the implementation of the guidelines on the establishment of the territorial people's militia are carried out by the provincial militia;

v. Carry out such other duties as may be assigned him by the regional military commissar or the provincial administrator.

13. Answerability of the provincial military commissar:

i. The provincial military commissar will be answerable to the regional military commissar and the provincial administrator;

ii. The provincial military commissar will rank as an assistant provincial administrator.

14. Office of the district military commissar: The office of the district military commissar will be established within the office of the district administration. The office will be headed by a district military commissar.

15. Duties and responsibilities of the district military commissar:

i. Acting on instructions from the provincial military commissar and the district administrator, the district military commissar will:

a. Implement in the district the provisions of the proclamation on national military service;

b. Keep a record of such property and manpower in the district as might be required in the event of mobilization;

c. Establish, train, arm, and deploy the district militia and ensure its preparedness for duty;

d. Ensure the implementation of the guidelines on the establishment of the territorial people's militia by the district militia;

e. Carry out such other duties as may be assigned him by the regional military commissar or the district administrator;

ii. The office may, as necessary, have registration stations in various parts of the district.

16. Answerability of the district military commissar:

i. The district military commissar is answerable to the regional military commissar and the district administrator;

ii. The district military commissar will rank as an assistant district administrator.

17. Office of the urban military commissar: The office of the urban military commissariat will be established within the municipal offices of every town. The office will be headed by an urban military commissar.

18. Duties and responsibilities of the urban military commissar:

i. Acting on instructions from the town's mayor or simiar official and the relevant military commissariat, the urban military commissar will:

a. Ensure the implementation of the provisions of the proclamation on national military service in the town;

b. Keep a record of such property and manpower in the town as might be required in the event of mobilization;

c. Establish, train, arm, and deploy the urban militia and ensure

its preparedness for duty;

d. Ensure the implementation of the guidelines on the establishment of the territorial people's militia by the urban militia in the town;

e. Carry out such other duties as may be assigned him by the mayor or town official and the relevant military commissariat;

ii. The office may, as necessary, have registration stations in various parts of the urban center.

19. Answerability of the urban military commissar: The urban military commissar will be answerable to the mayor or town official and to the regional military commissar in the case of a regional capital, to the provincial military commissar in the case of a provincial headquarters, or the district military commissar in the case of a district headquarters. The urban military commissar will rank as a deputy mayor or town official.

Part 3: The Territorial People's Militia [TPM]

20. Establishment of the TPM: This proclamation establishes the TPM at district, provincial, regional, and urban center level.

21. Aims of the TPM: The aims of the TPM are to defend and safeguard the integrity and independence of the country and revolution, fight against both internal and external enemies, and protect the government, the general public, and property against natural and man-made disasters so as to ensure the peace and well-being of the masses and enable them to carry out their socioeconomic activities without fear.

22. Duties and responsibilities of the TPM: In the regions, provinces, districts, and towns where it is established, the TPM will:

i. Defend against external attacks and invasions;

ii. Defend against internal attacks by counterrevolutionaries and anti-unity forces;

iii. Take part in efforts to protect the masses, the general public, the government, and property against natural and man-made disaster;

iv. Carry out suitable socioeconomic activities wherever it is stationed;

v. Obey orders regarding the call to duty or post, and those related to training, exercises, and other similar activities;

vi. Carry out any duties as ordered by relevant authorities.

23. Membership in district TPM's:

i. Members of district TPM's will be recruited from among the kebele peasants living in the district in accordance with Article 7/1 of this proclamation;

ii. The numerical establishment of district TPM's will be in accordance with Article 7/3 of this proclamation.

24. Membership in provincial TPM's: Members of provincial TPM's will be recruited from among the residents of the districts in the province.

25. Regional TPM's: Members of regional TPM's will be recruited from among the inhabitants of the provinces in the region.

26. Membership in urban TPM's:

i. Members of the urban TPM's will be recruited from among urban dwellers in accordance with the requirements laid down in Article 7 of this proclamation;

ii. The numerical establishment of urban TPM's will be in accordance with Article 7 of this proclamation.

27. Posting outside the home zone:

i. TPM's at all levels must accept postings outside the administrative zone in which they were established;

ii. The minister will issue directives on deployment outside the home zone.

28. Work priorities: The TPM's will cooperate with defense, security, and other relevant organs.

Part IV:

Various Regulations:

29. Obeying the callup: Everyone must respond to calls for enlistment in the TPM.

30. The obligation to cooperate: Every individual and every office or organization, whether government or private, must cooperate in the implementation of this proclamation.

31. Joint campaigns: Command and control will be exercised by the regular army whenever the regular army and the TPM's conduct joint campaigns.

32. Injured members of the TPM: The government and people will, by virtue of this proclamation, render assistance to any person suffering from physical or mental injuries as a result of service or training in the TPM, or to the dependants in the event of death.

33. Punishment: Any person contravening the provisions of this proclamation or obstructing its implementation will be punished in accordance with existing criminal law.

34. The power to issue regulations: The minister is empowered to issue any regulations deemed necessary for the implementation of this proclamation.

35. Date on which the proclamation comes into effect: This proclamation will be effective from the date of publication in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE.

Addis Ababa, 10 May 1983: Provisional Military Administrative Council

GHANA

TIMES Calls U.S. Embassy Statement 'Unfair'

AB110744 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 11 May 83

[Press review]

[Excerpt] The GHANAIAN TIMES describes as day accusing the mass media, and the GHANAIAN TIMES in particular, of creating anti-American hysteria by carrying unsubstantiated stories alleging all kinds of nefarious American activities in Ghana, and refusing to print American Embassy statements that would have set the record straight.

The paper says these charges are unfair because they are not true and because they are not being leveled against the TIMES in good faith. But the most unfair of the embassy's charges against it, says the TIMES, was a statement which the paper published yesterday. That statement was part of a rejoinder sent to the GHANAIAN TIMES' editor alone to be published whole, that is, as a letter to the editor. But the embassy also released it to the mass media generally as a news item. So the TIMES was obliged to publish that news form [as heard] of the rejoinder because in news form it would be published earlier than if it came out as a letter. But the news form release by the embassy did not contain some of the matters raised in the original rejoinder. So the paper had no choice but to publish only what the news release contained, which it did yesterday.

TIMES Reports Clash in Lake Volta Region

AB111216 Paris AFP in English 1133 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Lome, May 11 (AFP) — A violent clash between two rival tribes in Ghana's Lake Volta region ended with 20 people dead, according to the latest edition of the GHANAIAN TIMES received here. Monday's TIMES, which reached the Togolese capital today, reported that fighting between the Alavanyo and Nkonua people lasted for several days last week.

Last month 14 other people died when the two peoples fought over a well. A dusk-to-dawn curfew was imposed on the area, close to the border with Togo, after police and army units were rushed to the scene to restore order.

Accra: Students Seeking Ties With RSA

AB112106 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Reports coming out of last week's congress of the National Union of Ghana Students [NUGS] show that among the resolutions passed is one calling on the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC] to recognize the racist regime in South Africa and to establish diplomatic relations with it. The resolution described South Africa's presence in Namibia as a bulwark against what the student leaders called international communism.

It will be recalled that the whole international community has condemned South Africa's illegal occupation of Namibia. The whole world also condemns South Africa's incursions into Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, and Mozambique. But Ghana's student leaders, after labeling these black nations as communist countries, declared that South Africa's tactics were justified. One reason given by the students for their call is that by recognizing South Africa Ghana will obtain (?its aid).

In addition to these deliberations at the congress, the NUGS called on the PNDC to hand over power to the office of the chief justice within 1 month from 25 April 1983. They called for the formation of an interim legislature which the NUGS leadership [words indistinct]. According to reports, a section of the students present indicated that it was impossible for any rational government to support South Africa's racism, fascism, and apartheid, and the PNDC could not accept such a demand.

GUINEA

CSSR Trade Union Delegation Arrives in Conakry

AB111728 Conakry Domestic Service in French 1615 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] A Czechoslovak trade union delegation arrived in Conakry on Monday, 9 May 1983. The visit is aimed at strengthening the relations of friendship and cooperation between the National Confederation of Guinean Workers and the Czechoslovak Central Council of Trade Unions [URO].

The Czechoslovak delegation is led by Comrade Ladislav Abraham, a member of the URO Central Committee, secretary of the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Medical Society, and secretary of the Coordinating Council of Ministers of Health of the Czech and Slovak Republics. The delegation also includes other top-ranking officials.

GUINEA-BISSAU

Talks Planned With France To Start in June

AB111435 Paris AFP in French 0736 GMT 11 May 83

[Excerpt] Bissau, 11 May (AFP) — According to official sources in Bissau, the higher joint cooperation commission between France and Guinea-Bissau will meet in Bissau in the last 2 weeks of June and will be attended by Christian Nucci, French cooperation minister. This information was disclosed at the end of an audience given by Guinea-Bissau Prime Minister Victor Saude Maria to Yves Robin, French ambassador to Bissau, who gave the prime minister a message from French Prime Minister Pierre Mauroy.

In the message, Mauroy confirms that "France is ready to give active support to Guinea-Bissau to resolve its most urgent problems." He also confirms his government's readiness to give food aid to Guinea-Bissau as well as special credit facilities for priority imports and payment facilities [words indistinct].

NIGER

Kountche Receives Chadian Foreign Minister

AB111737 Paris AFP in French 1431 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Niamey, 11 May (AFP) — General Seyni Kountche, the Niger head of state, on Wednesday received Idriss Miskine, Chadian minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, who delivered a message from President Hissein Habre. Mr Miskine, who did not reveal the contents of the message, nevertheless told the press that President Kountche and he "discussed African problems."

Also, Mr Miskine again accused Libya of preparing to launch another "imminent" attack against his country. The Libyans are currently occupying the whole of Tibesti, he said, and recently they have been sending supplies by air to Bardai and Aouzou (in the northernmost part of Chad), especially from Sebha in southern Libya in order to launch this new offensive.

Mr Miskine felt that this attack could take place soon before the beginning of June "in order," according to him, "to draw international attention toward some kind of opposition in Chad." "We are preparing with what means we have to wipe out any offensive entended to destabilize our country," he concluded.

Students Extend Boycott Until 16 May

AB111622 Paris AFP in French 1427 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Niamey, 11 May (AFP) — Students of the University of Niamey today extended the boycott of classes which they began on 2 May until Monday, 16 May, it was learned from university sources. Furthermore, students from Kassai and Issa Korombe high schools in Niamey, who observed "5 days of mourning" following the death of a law student who died last week while in police custody, did not resume classes on Wednesday morning, it was learned from official sources in these two institutions.

It was, however, indicated from official sources that the situation in the provinces of Dosso, Maradi (center-south),and Diffa (southeast) where students also boycotted classes last week has returned to normal. These sources also indicate that the Institute of Education at the University of Niamey was not involved in the strike action.

In their call for the continuation of the strike, the Niger Student Union and its branch at the university, the Niger Student Union of the University of Niamey, asked for the release of "numerous students" who, according to them, are still being detained following their arrest 8 days ago. They also called for the reopening of the Higher Institute of Agronomy, which was closed at the end of April following student brutality against their teachers and the director of the institute.

NIGERIA

Radio Praises Peaceful Settlement with Chad

AB111125 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 11 May 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] A government delegation from Chad Republic (?asked) to join their counterparts from the Republic of Nigeria earlier in the month for talks to explore ways to end the border problems between their two countries. The discussions, which lasted 2 days, were held in Lagos, Nigeria. The immediate task of the meeting was to defuse the tension caused by the sudden unprovoked Chadian military action resulting in violations of Nigerian territorial integrity.

The Federal Government of Nigeria, though driven to the wall, was still guided by its policy of restraint in such situations. Nigerian Armed Forces were put on the alert and ordered to crush any further intruders into Nigerian territory. A strongly worded protest left Chadian authorities in no doubt about the mood of the Nigerian people over the reckless action by Chadian troops.

Happily, good counsel prevailed and there was a resort to the current peaceful negotiations. This should have been the proper basis of approach in the first place instead of the use of force, which resulted in the loss of lives that could have been avoided. The talks which began in Lagos are planned to lead to eventual long-term and final settlement of the border issue between Nigeria and Chad.

Nigerians were suprised and disappointed with they learned of the attacks on Nigerian territory by troops from the sister state of Chad. This is because the people of Nigeria, following the lead of their Federal Government, have always treated matters connected with the strife-torn Republic of Chad with special brotherly understanding.

The political instability in Chad since 1975 had been a serious diplomatic and human problem for Nigeria. In June 1981 thousands of Chadian refugees escaping from the war zones in their country were hosted by Nigeria. The Federal Government of Nigeria spent about 10 million naira to care for the refugees. The Federal Government also brought the warring factions in Chad to Kano in Nigeria, where peace talks ended in an agreement. The breach of that agreement was followed by other mandatory efforts by Nigeria. The feeling of disappointment among Nigerians at Chadian military action arose from memories of such past relations and from several other considerations.

Nigeria and Chad are members of ECOWAS and also members of the four-nation Chad River Basin Commission. The recent summit meeting of the commission was held in Lagos in a very

cordial atmosphere. The joint development of the Chad Basin is of great importance to the economic well-being of Chad, Nigeria, Cameroon, and Niger. Nigeria plays an impressive role in the Chad Basin development and that (?area) alone has a two-pronged program operating through the international four-nation commission and the National Chad Basin authority.

In all such activities Nigeria has been seeking to share with its sister states the problems of development for the benefit of better standards of life for the peoples of the area. This attitude helps to strengthen the spirit of African brotherhood,which is highly valued by Nigeria. That is why, in its reaction to the military attacks by Chadian soldiers, it saw it as an opportunity to call the erring brothers to order. Much credit goes to the Chadians for their response in favor of peace talks after all.

Nigeria's hope and belief is that, by the example it has been setting in the Chadian and similar other confrontations, African states will be induced and strengthened in their commitment to the provisions of the OAU Charter. This is with special reference to the clauses relating to the inviolability of inherited frontiers, the territorial integrity of all countries, and the peaceful settlement of all disputes. The sum total of this shows that even if African countries disagree among themselves, they do not allow such quarrels to escalate. Their settlement of disputes in a brotherly African way is a procedure that enhances peaceful coexistance.

SENEGAL

Ka Comments on OAU Summit, Ties With Israel

AB112056 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 11 May 83

[Excerpt] Senegal is ready to attend the OAU summit. But if the SDAR or any other state approaches the issue of the summit in terms of a trial of strength,he summit will not be held. This was said by Information Minister Djibo Ka this morning at his usual press conference, the first since the formation of the new Cabinet.

According to Djibo Ka, the OAU must implement its own decisions, in particular the decision made in Nairobi on the problem of self-determination for the Saharan people through a referendum. He indicated that Senegal does not set any condition for its participation in the summit scheduled to take place in Addis Ababa on 6 June. The government spokesman said, however, that any move likely to achieve a consensus on holding the summit will be endorsed by Senegal, which is very strongly dedicated to the survival of the continental body. Consultations are in progress, Djibo Ka added before expressing hope that the wisdom of African heads of state will make it possible to overcome all obstacles.

Replying to a question on the Middle East, the minister said that Senegal does not intend to resume diplomatic relations with Israel, whose attitude it has always denounced. Senegal does not intend to withdraw its contingent serving in the UNIFIL in Lebanon

SIERRA LEONE

Foreign Minister To Run for OAU Post

AB111633 Paris AFP in English 1522 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Freetown, May 11 (AFP) — Sierra Leone Foreign Minister Abdulai Conteh has confirmed that he will stand for election as secretary-general of the Organisation of African Unity. In an interview with the government-owned DAILY MAIL published today, Mr. Conteh, 37, said he was "still in the race for the election" and that he reckoned his chances of success were "very high".

"All indications are, given the circumstances under which the election might be held, it is in our favour," he said.

The present incumbent, Edem Kodjo of Togo, is available for a second term, but was told by Togolese President Gnassingbe Eyadema last year that Togo would not propose him as candidate again.

The Sierra Leone foreign minister expressed optimism that the OAU summit scheduled for next month in Addis Ababa would open as planned. "We fervently hope that the OAU will be able to have a full and successful meeting at which every member state will participate," he told the DAILY MAIL.

TOGO

France's Penne Leaves Lome for Accra

AB110604 Lome Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 10 May 83

[Excerpt] Guy Penne, the adviser of the French president on African and Malagasy Affairs, and his deputy, Jean-Christophe Mitterrand, left Lome this morning for Accra where they will hold talks with Flight Lieutenant Jerry Rawlings, the Ghanaian head of state.

During their short visit to Lome, French President Mitterrand's advisers on African and Malagasy affairs yesterday held private talks with General Gnassingbe Eyadema, the founding chairman of the Togolese People's Rally [RPT] and president of the republic, at the head of state's private residence in Lome II. The private talks, lasting over an hour, were followed by a dinner attended by several members of the RPT Political Bureau and Central Committee as well as French Ambassador Michel Chatelais.

Foreign Minister Leaves for New York

AB112028 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Foreign Affairs Minister Michel Kafando left Ouagadougou this afternoon for New York where he will hold working sessions with business circles interested in the development of our country. The minister of foreign affairs will also contact officials of the United Nations in order to strengthen the cooperation between that organization and Upper Volta.

Before his depature the minister of foreign affairs received in audience the ambassadors of the PRC, France, the Netherlands,and Egypt. The talks touched on ways of strengthening cooperation with those countries.

ANGOLA

Minister Notes Likelihood of New Talks With RSA

MB101935 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 10 May 83

[Text] Everything seems to indicate that new talks between Angolan and South African delegations will soon take place as a follow-up to the contacts held in December and January. In fact, the latest reports divulged by South African sources indicate that another meeting between official delegations of the two states will take place later this month.

Commenting on the subject, Lieutenant Colonel Alexandre Rodrigues Kito, member of the MPLA-Labor Party Political Bureau and minister of the interior of the People's Republic of Angola, who led the Angolan delegation to the previous talks, told ANGOP this morning that "We are also aware, through a third party, that there is such an intention on the part of South Africa." He added: I think that it must be true, for Angola has been waiting for South Africa's decision. To begin with, following the last meeting at Ilha do Sal, the questions we raised at the December meeting have still not been resolved. Therefore, he said, we are still awaiting a reply to the problems raised in December.

According to the Angolan official, it is South Africa which must indicate when it is ready to hold another meeting because Angola is available for dialogue at any time.

Asked to comment on speculation by certain international information circles regarding his recent visit to the United States, Lt Col Alexandre Rodrigues Kito stressed that Angola is not begging for peace, nor will it give up its stand of saying "no" to any linkage. He recalled once again that the Namibian independence problem has nothing to do with Angola's internal affairs. He said that for the People's Republic of Angola, the withdrawal of Cuban troops is an internal problem that concerns only Angola.

Lt Col Alexandre Rodrigues Kito added that the Angolan-Cuban declaration of 4 February remains in force, despite the recent speculation of the international press. He repeated: We will not abandon this stand.

Dos Santos Receives Messages From USSR, Cuba

'Personal Message' From Andropov

AB101332 Luanda ANGOP in French 1230 GMT 10 May 83

[Text] Luanda, 10 May (ANGOP) — Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the MPLA-Labor Party and of the People's Republic of Angola, yesterday afternoon received in audience Vadim Loginov, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the USSR to Angola. During this meeting, the Soviet ambassador gave the Angolan head of state a personal message from Yuriy Andropov, USSR head of state. It should be recalled that the president of the MPLA-Labor Party and the People's Republic of Angola will be making an official visit to the USSR this month.

Ambassador Delivers Castro Note

MB110805 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 10 May 83

[Text] Angolan President Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos received a message from Commander Fidel Castro in Belas, Luanda, this morning. The message, whose contents were not revealed, was given to the Angolan president by Francia Mestre, ambassador of the Republic of Cuba accredited to our country.

Reportage on Visit of PRC Vice Foreign Minister

Addresses Newsmen on Arrival

AB101235 Luanda ANGOP in French 0930 GMT 10 May 83

[Text] Luanda, 10 May (ANGOP) — Gong Dafei, PRC foreign affairs vice minister, has been in Luanda since yesterday evening for a 2-day visit as part of his tour of several African countries.

Addressing newsmen on his arrival, the Chinese vice minister reiterated his government's desire to strengthen cooperation and friendship with the People's Republic of Angola and added that during his visit to Angola he would discuss with Angolan officials ways of developing cooperation for the benefit of the two peoples and governments.

In this regard, he said the economic and trade sectors were priority sectors in the development of cooperation between the two countries following the recent visit to China by some high-level officials from the Angolan Foreign Trade Ministry.

To conclude, Gong Dafei said he would take advantage of his visit to Angola to express to Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos regards from Chinese Prime Minister Zhao Ziyang.

Talks Begin 10 May

AB101316 Luanda Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 10 May 83

[Text] Today in Luanda began official discussions between the Chinese vice foreign minister and a Angolan delegation led by the vice minister of external relations, Comrade Venancio da Silva Moura. The Angolan delegation to the talks also includes the country's ambassador to France, Comrade Luis Jose de Almeida. The Chinese vice foreign minister, Gong Dafei, is expected to meet with the Angolan minister of external affairs and the vice ministers of finance, industry, health and agriculture.

In the Angolan capital, the Chinese official is to visit the Luanda oil refinery and will later pay a visit to the agricultural scheme of (Kwanza-Bengo) in the municipality of (Soyo), in the northwest of the country.

Speaking on arrival, he reaffirmed his country's desire to develop friendship and cooperation ties between the People's Republic of Angola and China. Gong Dafei, who is visiting the People's Republic of Angola for the first time, indicated that he is to discuss with Angolan authorities means of improving friendship

and cooperation relations in the interest of the two peoples and governments. He returns home on the 14th of this month.

'Eventual' Industrial Cooperation Discussed
MB120910 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] Chinese Deputy Foreign Minister Gong Dafei, who has been in Angola since Monday, will visit Petrangol this morning as part of his schedule.

Yesterday, Gong Dafei and his delegation were honored with a state banquet given by Angolan Deputy Foreign Minister Venancio de Moura. Earlier, the Chinese official was received by the Angolan deputy minister of health, Dr Ferreira Neto. The Chinese deputy foreign minister also met with Angolan Deputy Minister of Industry Justino Fernandes, with whom he discussed possibilities for eventual cooperation in the field of industry. He also visited the anthropological and Armed Forces museums.

LESOTHO

Priest, Two Others Convicted Under Security Act
MB101349 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1301 GMT 10 May 83

[Text] Maseru, May 10, SAPA — An Anglican priest and two other men were convicted in the Lesotho High Court in Maseru today of contravening the Internal Security Act.

The accused, the Reverend Shadraack Ndumo, in charge of the St. Agnes Anglican Church at Teya Teya Neng; Molefi Ramphalile, a teacher at a high school in the district; and Nyamane Kholoane, the owner of a cafe on the outskirts of Maseru, were originally charged with high treason.

Mr Justice B.K. Molai accepted their plea of guilty to the charge of contravening the Internal Security Act of 1982.

Sentence will be passed tomorrow.

The principal crown council, Mr K.C. Kamalanathan, today presented a new charge sheet, alleging that on September 16 and 17 last year at Teya Tey Neng and Maseru, all the accused unlawfully possessed explosives and various types of detonators. He said the police were satisfied the accused were going to use the explosives for unlawful purposes.

Pleading in mitigation, Mr Peter Hodes, SC, told the court the three accused had no previous convictions and played an important role in Lesotho society. He said there was a political background to their possession of explosives. He referred to the seizure of power by the prime minister, Chief Leabua Jonathan, in 1970 and that there had been no elections since. Mr Hodes said there had emerged, "a sense of grievance among a large section of the population since 1970. The events of 1970 and since have created a deep division among the people." Happily, he said, the government had announced its intention to hold elections in the not too distant future and had also voted money for the purpose. He asked the court to impose a fully suspended sentence or a fine.

Sentences Announced at Trial
MB111813 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] The three men convicted of contravening the Internal Security Act by Justice B. Molai, sitting with two assessors, Chief (Seqobela Matsoso) and Mr (Nkoto Sekoai), have been sentenced to 12 months' imprisonment or an alternative fine of 500 maluti each, and a further 2 years' imprisonment suspended for 3 years in the Lesotho High Court this morning. The men are the Reverend Shadraack Ndumo, rector at St Agnes Mission, and Molefi Ramphadile, a teacher at (Kana) High School, and Nyamane Kholoane, a businessman at Qoaling in Maseru.

Passing the sentence, Mr Justice Molai considered the defense counsel's plea in mitigation that the three accused on the part of the accused as a sign of remorse will also put into consideration the fact that the accused have not been convicted of a criminal act [sentence as heard]. Justice Molai, however, warned that people cannot be allowed to use unlawful means to achieve their ends. He said that it has become customary to refer to the 1970's in dealing with similar cases in the past and stressed that the use of violence cannot be justified to bring about political redress.

The crown counsel was Mr Kamalanathan, and the defense counsel was Advocate Peter Hodes, senior counsel.

MOZAMBIQUE

Machel Visits to UK, Belgium, SFRY Postponed
MB111451 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1400 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] The visits President Samora Machel was to have made to Great Britain, Belgium, the SFRY, and EEC headquarters have been postponed by mutual agreement of the interested countries. New dates for the visits, to be agreed upon with the same countries, will be announced shortly.

More on Tour Postponement
MB111859 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] President Samora Machel has postponed his European tour, which was scheduled to begin on Monday next week. A communique issued today by the Mozambican Foreign Ministry in Maputo said the postponement was by mutual agreement with the countries concerned. New dates will then be released. The president was [words indistinct] in Belgium. President Samora was scheduled to stay on for some time after his official visit and hold talks with leading officials of the EEC. An official of the British Embassy in Maputo has told the MOZAMBIQUE NEWS AGENCY that Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher sent a telegram to President Samora requesting the postponement of

the visit to Britian because of the campaign for next month's general election. She hopes, however, that the visit could be rescheduled for later this year.

SOUTH AFRICA

Government Denies Zimbabwean Charges of Spying

MB111545 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1500 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Pretoria, May 11, SAPA — The South African Government has strongly denied Zimbabwean claims that it (the Republic) sent a group of former Rhodesian auxiliaries into Zimbabwe to recruit volunteers to undergo military training in the Republic.

In an interview published in Harare today, the Zimbabwean minister of state security, Mr Emmerson Munangagwa, claimed Zimbabwean security forces had arrested three of the 16-man group. The rest of the men were still on the run, he said.

He added that in addition to recruiting, the men were also engaged in low-level reconnaisance and intelligence-gathering tasks.

Zimbabwean security forces had also arrested a former Special Branch officer based in Bulawayo after he had been flown into Zimbabwe illegally from South Africa, the Zimbabwean minister claimed. He said the man had visited a "South African intelligence base" south of the Limpopo River.

Approached for comment on the allegations today, a Foreign Affairs spokeswoman in Pretoria said: "We strongly deny that South Africa is in any way connected with the alleged incidents." She did not comment further.

R.F. Botha Addresses Assembly During Debate

Zimbabwe Talks Still Possible

MB111928 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs and information, Mr Pik Botha, says he does not rule out a meeting at ministerial level between South Africa and Zimbabwe. Speaking in the debate on his budget vote in the Assembly, he said the present political climate, however, was not conducive to such a meeting, as the desire for talks should be mutual.

Referring to South-West Africa, he said South Africa remained committed to achieving an independence for the territory that would be recognized internationally, but not at any price. An internationally acceptable solution that could lead to greater conflict and embroil the whole of southern Africa would not be acceptable to South Africa. Negotiations were still being conducted with all the parties on a possible election in South-West Africa.

Warns Neighbors on Guerrillas

MB110915 Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 11 May 83 p 1

[Text] House of Assembly — Foreign Minister Mr Pik Botha yesterday bluntly warned neighbouring states that South Africa would continue to "strike back" across their borders if they haboured guerrillas.

Speaking in the foreign affairs debate, Mr Botha warned: "If they continue to harbour terrorists there can be no hope of peace in southern Africa. We cannot afford to sit back."

He was backed up in this stand by the New Republic Party's foreign spokesman, Mr Brian Page, who said: "If any of our neighbours harbour enemies of this state who are commited to the overthrow of the legitimate regime, then they must accept the consequences, which will include preemptive strikes, hot pursuit and the rest. This is unavoidable and in our opinion does not constitute destabilization."

Earlier Mr Botha said he had made the government's attitude clear to emissaries of the Mozambican Government, whom he met last week, and to a representative of the Lesotho Government in Pretoria recently.

He had recounted parts of his meeting with the Mozambicans at Komatipoort, which took place shortly after a wanted criminal, Pieter Schoeman, had been paraded on Mozambican TV as a captured South African spy whose mission was to assassinate President Samora Machel.

The claims had later been disproved and he had pointedly asked the Mozambicans how many other false stories about South Africa's alleged role as a "destabiliser" had been sent into the world.

He had warned them of the consequences of continuing to harbour African National Congress insurgents and had said that the South African Government knew all about them. However, he had said: "If both governments are interested in a durable peace, I think we will be able to find a way." Mr Botha had emphasised, too, that South Africa was not interested in the ideologies of its neighbours, but simply that they should be stable.

"I told them that South Africa believes that all countries are sovereign and that there could be no hope of peace unless you and all other states accept this. I told Lesotho the same," he said.

He had warned Lesotho's representatives that South Africa knew about Chief Leabua Jonathan's visit to four communist countries and had said that if it led to further "terrorist" attacks on South Africa, "Lesotho will have to bear the consequences."

Referring to the United Nations, Mr Botha said the UN's demands were too harsh for even the Progressive Federal Party to satisfy. "The opposition simply cannot resist the temptation to blame the government for the attacks on South Africa," Mr

Botha said. "But there is not a single party sitting here which can meet the views on and demands made of South Africa by the majority of UN members." They demanded nationalisation andredistribution of wealth, while supporting the ANC and the SA Communist Party.

What was important was to ask which sections of the world could be satisfied. "If the PFP accuses this government (of failing to satisfy the world), then the implication is that his (Mr Eglin's) party is able to satisfy them," Mr Botha said. "I assume he has the reasonable part of the world in mind."

Mr Eglin interjected: "That's what I said."

Reportage on Outcome of Transvaal By-elections

Record Postal, Special Votes

MB100650 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 10 May 83

[Excerpt] About 56,000 voters will be eligible to cast their ballots today in the all-important by-elections taking place in the four Transvaal constituencies of Waterberg, Soutpansberg, Waterkloof, and Carletonville. A record number of voters in the four constituencies — about 13,000 — have already had their say by way of postal and special votes, and high-percentage polls are expected, particularly in Waterberg, Soutpansberg, and Waterkloof.

The five political parties contesting the by-elections have nominated a total of 13 candidates. In Waterberg there is a three-cornered contest between the National Party [NP], the Conservative Party [CP], and the Herstigte Nasionale Party [HNP]. In Soutpansberg the NP and the CP oppose each other. The urban constituency of Waterkloof is being contested by four parties: the NP, the Progressive Federal Party, the CP, and the New Republic Party [NRP]. Another four-cornered contest takes place in the provincial constituency of Carletonville between NP, the CP, the NRP, and the HNP.

Polling booths opened at 0700 this morning and close at 2100 this evening. The head of elections of the Department of Internal Affairs, Mr J. Pretorius, has reminded voters that they need proof of identity before being allowed to vote. This may be in the form of official documents, identity cards, passports, or drivers' licenses. People not in possession of any of these documents may be identified by other voters.

Three Constituencies Report Results

MB110620 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] The results of three of the four Transvaal by-elections have been received. The leader of the Conservative Party [CP], Dr Andries Treurnicht, has retained his Waterberg seat with a majority of 1,894 votes. The National Party [NP] won Waterkloof with a majority of 1,951, and retained Carletonville with a majority of 1,359. The Soutpansberg result is expected between 0900 and 1100. The full results so far are as follows:

In Waterberg, Dr A.P. Treurnicht of the CP received 5,706 votes. Mr E. Cuyler of the NP 3,812, and Mr J.A. Marais of the Herstigte Nasionale Party [HNP] 2,639. The CP majority was 1,894. The percentage poll was 78.5, and there were 38 spoiled papers. In the 1981 general election, the NP majority was 1,461, and the percentage poll 75.8. On that occasion Dr Treurnicht retained the seat for the NP.

In Waterkloof, the winning candidate, Dr O. Marais of the NP, received 6,917 votes, Mr T.B. Spies of the Progressive Federal Party [PFP] got 4,966, Mr J.J.C. Botha of the CP 2,887, and Mr H.D.G. Viljoen of the New Republic Party [NRP] 312. The NP won with a majority of 1,951 votes. The percentage poll was 80.3, and there were 3 spoiled papers. In the 1981 general election the NP majority was 1,840 and the percentage poll 81.5. Mr Tom Langley, who has since become a member of the CP, retained the seat on that occasion for the NP.

In the provincial by-election in Carletonville, Mr J.F. Jooste of the NP received 4,749 votes, and the NP majority was 1,359. Mr S.P. van Vuuren of the CP got 3,390 votes, Mr R.J.N. Grobler of the HNP 1,673, and Mr J.F. van der Merwe of the NRP 723. The percentage poll was 53.2, and there were 25 spoiled papers. In the 1981 general election the NP majority was 1,708 and the percentage poll 67.4.

The prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, said that although the National Party had not fared badly in the elections and was patently showing growth again in the Transvaal after the crises precipitated by two successive provincial leaders, the NP realized that the voting public was deeply divided, as manifested by the results of the by-elections. The government would have to make an in-depth study of it and evaluate the implications, and he hoped that the voters would also consider the implications of their decisions. The prime minister thanked the voters who had supported the government, adding that the government would try not to disappoint them.

The leader of the opposition, Dr van Zyl Slabbert, said in Pretoria that it should be encouraging to the National Party that the Conservative Party had not received greater support in the urban constituency of Waterkloof. He expressed his disappointment at the result and said that, although the Progressive Federal Party had done slightly better than before, he would naturally have wanted it to do better still.

The leader of the Conservative Party, Dr Andries Treurnicht, said he regarded the victory of his party in Waterberg as an achievement, considering that the party was less than 1 year old. The result confirmed the support for his party's principles and opposition, among other things, to the new constitution.

Regarding cooperation with the HNP, Dr Treurnicht said this was no longer a priority, although there was a move to unite conservative power. He said a decision would be taken later on formal talks. He added that it was now unlikely that other CP members of Parliament would resign their seats to force by-elections.

The leader of the HNP, Mr Jaap Marais, said the result in Waterberg and his party's battle over many years had checked

the National Party, and it heralded a period of decline for the party in power. He said that the NP would move still further towards the policy of the PFP. Even though the CP had won, the party was of a transitory nature and the HNP was the only party which maintained the true principles and convictions of prime ministers such as Dr Malan, Mr Strydom, and Dr Verwoerd.

The leader of the New Republic Party, Mr Vause Raw, said in Cape Town the results in Waterberg and Waterkloof confirmed his view that the rightwing was an unpalatable fact of life with which the prime minister would have to live, just as the radically-dominated PFP could not be wished away. Both represented limited spectra of the white electorate. He said that the future of South Africa depended on the cooperation of moderates of all population groups seeking a peaceful future together.

Manpower Minister Botha Reelected
MB111256 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1240 GMT 11 May 83

[By Greg Smith]

[Excerpts] Louis Trichardt, May 11, SAPA — The minister of manpower, Mr Fanie Botha, was today elected to his ninth term of office as member of Parliament for the Soutpansberg constituency.

But the National Party [NP] majority was whittled down to 621 from more than 3,500 in the 1981 election.

The Conservative Party [CP] candidate, Mr Thomas Langley, received 5,479 votes to Mr Botha's 6,100. The percentage poll was 78.36, some 11 points higher than in the last election.

When the result was announced after a marathon 17-hour count, Mr Botha was carried aloft by cheering NP supporters.

Addressing party members, Mr Botha said he hoped and trusted that in the days ahead the NP members would help him carry out the message they had given today in a worthy manner. [Words inidstinct] committment," Mr Botha said.

His wife joined him, and he thanked her for the help she had given and said: "Everything that must be done we will do together."

Conservative Party supporters were at first taken aback by the defeat — they had expected victory. But they rallied as Mr Langley addressed them. "This was one of the best achievements of the CP," Mr Langley said. "We fought a clean, honest battle without the help of television or radio." The CP candidate said that the party would now have to utilise good team-work and to build for the future. "The battle continues," Mr Langley said.

As the two candidates addressed their respective parties, supporters of both sides tried to drown out the other in chanting their party names. It was the first time since the election began early yesterday morning that the National Party supporters responded to such cries from the CP.

The marathon counting session was apparently caused by a dispute over postal votes. One National Party official said that the CP had challenged virtually every such vote. News coming out of the counting station during the day was scarce, but some supporters said that counting of votes had only begun late this morning.

Mr Botha has been MP for Soutpansberg for 25 years running. He was first elected in the 1958 general election.

Voting yesterday began briskly at 0700 then tapered off before picking up strongly between 1300 and 1400 and reaching its peak between 1800 and 2100.

The number of spoilt papers was 101.

Voting Compared With Last Election
MB111520 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1208 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Pretoria, May 11, SAPA — The results of the Waterkloof parliamentary by-election yesterday were:

Dr O. Marais (NP) [National Party]...6917

Mr T. Spies (PFP) [Progressive Federal Party]...4966

Mr K. Botha (CP) [Conservative Party]...2887

Mr K. Viljoen (NRP)[New Republic Party]...312

NP majority...1951

Spoiled ballots...3; percentage poll...80.39

Last election:

Mr T. Langley (NP)...6726

Professor W.A. Joubert (PFP)...4886

Mr J.C.H. Maree (NRP)...1228

NP majority...1840

Spoiled ballots 214; percentage poll...81.5

The results of the Waterberg parliamentary by-election yesterday were;

Dr A.P. Treurnicht (CP)...5706

Dr E. Cuyler (NP)...3812

Mr J.A. Marais (HNP) [Herstigte Nasionale Party] 2639

CP Majority...1894

Spoiled ballots...38; percentage poll...78.47

Last election:

Dr A.P. Treurnicht (NP)...5233

Mr J.A. Marais (HNP)...3772

NP majority...1461

Spoiled ballots...121; percentage poll...75

Results of the Carletonville Transvaal provincial by-election yesterday were:

Mr J. Jooste (NP)...4749

Mr F. van Vuuren (CP)...3390

Mr R.J. Grobler (HNP)...1673

Mr J.F. van der Merwe (NRP)...723

NP Majority...1359

Spoiled ballots...25; percentage poll...67.4

Last election:

Mr P.J. du Plessis (NP)...5233

Mr R.C. Kok (HNP)...3525

Mr J.F. van der Merwe (NRP)...1256

NP majority...1708

Spoiled ballots...212; percentage poll...67.4

The results of the Soutpansberg parliamentary by-election yesterday were:

Mr S.P. Botha (NP)...6100

Mr T. Langley (CP)...5479

NP majority...621

Spoiled ballots...101; percentage poll...78.36

Last election 1981:

Mr S.P. Botha (NP)...5278

Mr W.J. van der Grijt (HNP)...1420

Mr M.J. Metz (Action Own Future, independent candidate)...1631

NP majority...3647

[Spoiled ballots and percentage poll not listed]

Government 'More Determined' After Elections
MB111641 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] The South African minister of foreign affairs, Mr Roelof Botha, says that after the results of the elections yesterday the government is even more determined to travel the difficult road to fairness. He told Parliament in Cape Town that if the Conservative Party [CP] thought its victory in Waterberg would cause the government to divert one step from its committed course, it was in for a surprise. Mr Botha said it was the duty of the government to bring about changes in South Africa to prevent the country from being harmed economically and weakened militarily and consequently fall prey to the Soviet Union. He said the CP was telling people that the government was lying and that the dangers were fabrications.

ZIMBABWE

Arrest of 'South African Spies' Announced
MB110856 Harare Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] The minister of state in the prime minister's office responsible for security, Comrade Emmerson Munangagwa, has announced the arrest of three South African spies. In an interview with THE HERALD, Comrade Munangagwa said the gang consisted of three black members of the former Rhodesian security forces who had been arrested after infiltrating into Matabeleland from South Africa. He said the men were part of a group of 16 former auxiliaries sent by the Pretoria regime early this year to recruit volunteers for military training. The minister said in addition to recruiting, the group had been engaged in low-level reconnaissance and intelligence-gathering tasks.

Comrade Munangagwa also revealed that the Zimbabwean security forces had arrested a former Special Branch officer who had been in contact with a group that was responsible for the death of the African National Congress party representative in Zimbabwe, Comrade Joe Gqabi, who was murdered in July 1981.

He warned that the government is ready to deal with any foreign spy ring, and there is considerable cooperation in this task from countries of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference. Comrade Munangagwa said there is now a decrease in dissident activities, and this is largely because of the deployment of security forces in Matabeleland.

Government Seeks Cooperation of Private Sector
MB101720 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 9 May 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] The 1-week-long Zimbabwe International Trade Fair, the third since independence, has just ended in Bulawayo. This fair, which was spectacular in that it attracted many Western and socialist countries to exhibit their products, was indeed a succes-sin boosting the trade prestige of a young nation like Zimbabwe.

The trade fair was a measure for Zimbabwe's ability to manufacture and exhibit products which can have access and acceptance at the international market. No doubt the international market is a trade forum where there is ruthless competition among sellers and a rigorous selection by buyers. Certainly, both the government and our local manufacturers had the opportunity to look at the products produced by the international community as a whole and to compare with their own, but the significance inherent in the international trade fair lies in that Zimbabwe should be a force to reckon with when it comes to the quality of its export products. Above all, it should be recognized by all our industrialists that Zimbabwe's capacity to export has a direct bearing on the socioeconomic growth and development of our community. There is no way we can increase our exports without putting maximum effort towards exhibiting at such major shows like the Zimbabwe International Trade Fair. It is for this reason that the prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, called on all Zimbabwean enterprises to take it as their duty to exhibit at the trade fair and to make the show a success.

Of not less importance is the need for our local manufacturers to appreciate the government's position on the use of foreign currency allocated to them. The emphasis by government on the development of local industries should be seen as part of a self-reliant economic developmental strategy directly linked to the struggle for economic independence. Within this framework it is proper and right, as the prime minister stressed, that foreign currency should be used to import those products which cannot be produced in Zimbabwe, for it goes without saying that if we do not adopt such a trade strategy, our economy remains import-orientated, and this should not be a healthy state for our young nation.

Once again we would like to point out that it is the task of all those involved in business activity to give as much publicity as possible to such shows as the trade fair so that it has caused the national impact it requires on the international trade forum. The Zimbabwe television, radio, press, and magazines are at the disposal of all our industrialists and manufacturers for the promotion of their products.

It was also not so encouraging to hear that some industrialists who were allocated foreign currency for business trips abroad failed to exhibit at the trade fair. Nevertheless, we would like to believe that in the light of the government's pledge to raise the quality of the Zimbabwe International Trade Fair, our local manufacturers will also do their best to assist the government in this direction. Cooperation between the government and the private sector remains a vital factor to the success of our socio-economic development programs.